

Councils face questions as programme is tightened

Money to help fund immigrants' jobs misused

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Eighty councils have been asked to justify applications for million of pounds in government aid to fund jobs for immigrants — after evidence that the money is being misused.

The Home Office has ordered a tightening of its £75 million a year aid programme — paid under Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1966 — because social services and education departments have used the cash to protect services rather than specifically to help immigrants.

A total of £100 million — 75 per cent from the Government — can be spent every year by 120 councils to provide extra services for Commonwealth immigrants.

Most of the money is used by education and social services departments, although cash is also available for housing and other services.

Since last year, the Home Office has redefined who should receive the money, pointing out that it must go to help Commonwealth immigrants and not be spent on British-born ethnic minority groups.

An internal report by Birmingham's City Council's ethnic minorities research unit says that most West Midlands councils are not using the money properly. It names Birmingham, Sandwell, and Wolverhampton as the worst offenders.

The report, published in the magazine, Social Work Today,

says that Birmingham's social services department would appear to be apportioning more resources to areas where, both relatively and absolutely, there are fewer blacks.

"Conversely, the least resources would seem to go to areas where the black population are relatively and absolutely greater."

Birmingham County Relations Council found that one children's home where two employees were supposed to be funded by the Home Office had closed and that another home with two Home Office-funded posts was looking after white children.

Ms Theresa Stewart, who chairs Birmingham's social services committee, said yesterday that some of the faults were caused by the previous Conservative administration.

She went on: "The previous [council] administration imposed large cuts on social services and also called in management consultants to investigate the services."

It is not surprising that they looked for ways of funding services from central government and officials had much more to worry about than check in detail applications for individual grants.

Covenanter, the only authority in the West Midlands which adequately justified its request for £130,000 to fund 21 jobs.

The Commons Home Affairs Committee criticised the programme in 1981 and the Home Office planned to report back to MPs to assure them that the money was well spent.



WOMEN WITH A CAUSE: Model Marie Helvin (above) was weighed down with petition forms outside the House of Commons yesterday. She and other animal rights protesters called on Parliament to declare illegal the LD50 toxicity test which uses laboratory animals. Carliann Hill (below) was meanwhile continuing her protest against the takeover of her transport business by London Transport. She chained herself to the front door of LTA's headquarters, but was later bound over for a year in the sum of £100 after Horseferry Road magistrates found her guilty of breach of the peace.



Overseas aid spending 'needs greater scrutiny'

By John Ezard

THE GOVERNMENT is not accountable to Parliament for a detailed explanation of how it shares out over £1 billion a year in overseas aid, the National Audit Office complained in a highly critical report yesterday.

The head of the office, Sir Gordon Downey, Comptroller and Auditor General, indicated that about 10 per cent of this spending was totally unaccountable and that inadequate estimates were given to Parliament for the rest. He was dissatisfied with auditing safeguards for the Crown Agents, the Government agency which is responsible for overseas development contracts.

One conclusion in the report implies that Parliament should take the controversial step of ensuring that the spending of aid by foreign governments should be open to British audit. An Audit Office spokeswoman yesterday refused to elaborate on the wording of the document.

Sir Gordon said Parliament

was given annual and supplementary estimates but was refused a chance to scrutinise the three-yearly "aid framework" which the Overseas Development Administration used to apportion grants to governments, organisations and international agencies.

Sir Gordon said the ODA intended to change the way estimates were given to Parliament but it was too early to say how effective the proposals would be in providing Parliament with important information on the pattern or priorities of aid.

He would not expect present audit methods for the Crown Agents, which spent £224 million of aid money in 1982-83, to provide a sufficient assurance either the ODA or Parliament that the terms and conditions of specific grants had been fully complied with.

"In my view, the ODA should seek specific assurances," Sir Gordon said.

Overseas Development Administration accountability for overseas aid, National Office, Stationery Office, £2.10.

Vetting inquiry by union

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Eight thousand senior civil servants are being asked by their union, the First Division Association, for details on how Government vetting inquiries are conducted.

The association's executive is concerned about the criteria investigators are now adopting. There are reports that officials are being asked whether they are members of pressure groups, and are also questioned about their views on current political controversies.

In a recent parliamentary answer to a question prompted by reports that GCHQ officials were being asked what they think of Mrs Thatcher's performance and about other political leaders, the Prime Minister said that investigators had discretion to raise topics of current political interest.

But she added: "The expression of views which may not coincide with those of the Government of the day has no bearing on or relevance to an investigation unless it appears to the investigator to go beyond the normal expression of dissent in a Parliamentary democracy."

Mrs Thatcher said that any questioning about civil servants' opinions of her leadership was done without her knowledge or consent.

In a circular to his branches, the association's executive says it has been worried for some time about the balance between the state's need for security and the civil liberties of its members. Positive vetting is carried out to ensure that officials with access to classified information are not a security risk.

Fat content of foods to be listed on label

By Rosemary Collins

The Government proposed yesterday that fatty foods in future should carry labels giving their exact fat content, and that alcoholic drinks should be labelled with their percentage of alcohol by volume.

But the precise form of the labels will not be decided until a survey, to be carried out by the Government and consumer organisations, has shown what the public can most easily understand.

It is likely that the labels will give the fat content of food as a percentage by weight, and other information on the saturated fatty acid content. Only foods with minimal fat content, like fruit and vegetables, cereals, bread and flour, will be exempt.

Mrs Peggy Fenner, the junior Agriculture Minister said yesterday we have an epidemic of high level of cardiovascular disease in this country.

She added: "We accept the recommendations of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy (Coma) which were that this sort of nutritional labelling could help people to decide what foods they should avoid if they wish to guard against the risks."

Mrs Fenner said that since the introduction of nutritional labelling in the United States more than 10 years ago, rates of cardiovascular disease had

Wrecking of buses defended

By Geoff Andrews

Transport Correspondent

BUSES no longer needed for city services are having sand put into their gearboxes to prevent them being operated by private competitors after bus deregulation next year.

Mr David Graham, the director general of Manchester Passenger Transport Executive, said yesterday that it was Greater Manchester Council's policy to prevent double-decker coaches which had been declared unserviceable being put back into service by unscrupulous operators.

But members of his engineering staff who had poured sand and grinding paste into the gearboxes of buses had been over-zealous, he said.

The Manchester policy is broadly followed by several authorities who find that the difference in the resale price of a double-decker bus in running order is only about £100 more than that usually obtained for one that has been immobilised.

This is because the market for buses that have spent 15 years on local service is almost exclusively in spares and scrap.

With the average double-decker fetching only about £1,500 at the end of its working life and a glut of unsold vehicles, some transport authorities have taken to cannibalising buses when they reach the end of their usefulness rather than selling them and buying new spares.

Councils have been officially warned of an increased danger of buses colliding with bridges as a result of deregulation of the industry.

Robbery up by 13pc in 1984

By Malcolm Dean

Both violent and non-violent crime increased in England and Wales last year, after a small drop in 1983. All the main categories of crime — assault, burglaries, criminal damage and robbery — showed increases in the annual statistics released yesterday by the Home Office.

The 13 per cent increase in robbery was the most concerning for ministers.

There were 25,000 robberies last year, although the Home Office noted that the figures are based on a somewhat arbitrary division between robbery and theft from the person, which also increased, although not nearly so fast.

The other disappointment for the Government, which has emphasised its commitment to law and order, is the drop in the clear-up rate. All the main categories of crime show a drop in the proportion of cases solved.

The proportion of thefts solved dropped from 37 to 35 per cent, burglaries from 30 to 28 per cent and robberies from 24 to 22 per cent. There were 114,000 offences of violence against the person in 1984, a 3 per cent increase on 1983. This increase, like that in the previous year, was small in comparison with the average for the 10 years before 1983 (9 per cent).

The clear-up rate, however, remains high, dropping a mere one per cent to 74 per cent. The recorded number of homicides, having fallen sharply from 618 in 1982 to 550 in 1983, increased again in 1984 to 620.

Altogether police recorded a total of 3.5 million offences last year — an 8 per cent increase on 1983.

The Home Office issued its annual warnings that the variations do not necessarily reflect an accurate pattern because of the large number of unreported or unrecorded crimes which are committed every day. The total clear-up rate dropped from 37 to 35 per cent.

Rate-capped authorities seek new negotiations

By John Carvel Local Government Correspondent

The campaign group of rate-capped Labour councils yesterday agreed on a fresh approach to Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, to seek a negotiated settlement to their budget crisis.

Meanwhile, there will be no change in their tactic of refusing to fix a rate, despite the astonishing collapse of this position at the Greater London Council and Inner London Education Authority in the past few days.

Mr David Blunkett, the leader of the Sheffield council, conceded that the manner in which the GLC and IEA had reached their decisions have given Mr Jenkin a propaganda gain.

He stressed, however, that there was no weakening of the resolve among borough and district councils to refuse to comply with the Government's use of the law and the grant to force them to cut spending on jobs and services.

Mr Blunkett said that Mr Jenkin had a responsibility to begin negotiations with a realistic solution, rather than to pursue the course of confrontation on which the Government had embarked.

Mr Blunkett was speaking after a meeting of the Local Government Information Unit, which comprises leaders of Labour councils on the rate-capping list and others — like Liverpool and Manchester — which are exposed to heavy grant penalties.

The meeting started with what one participant described as "uncomradely vocabulary".

Repercussions of Labour rift, page 4

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partly deficit budget amounted to continued defiance, despite its decision to set a rate below the government maximum.

It will be up to councils which have set a rate to make their case at next week's meeting of the unit, if they want to remain members of the council team in any talks with Mr Jenkin.

The minister has said that he will not negotiate with councils if they continue to demand that the agenda should cover dismantling the rate-capping law and the grant settlement which has already passed through Parliament.

Mr Blunkett said that stance was predictable, but not necessarily permanent. "If that were true we would be living in a totalitarian society."

The Prime Minister yesterday added to the embarrassment of the GLC Labour group, by welcoming the council's decision to set a legal rate. She called on other rate-capped Labour councils to follow his example.

"I am very pleased that, in spite of all the political posturing, a legal rate has been set," she told the Commons.

Unlike their predecessors, said Mr Brittan meaningfully, looking across at the Labour benches where a little cluster of former Home Secretaries — Mr Callaghan and Mr Rees — sat huddled together, this Government was creating a statutory framework for interception, making unauthorised interception a criminal offence, and providing victims of illicit tap with their first ever right of redress. Indeed, in his intervening term, Mr Brittan had promised to give more legislation to punish those who disseminated the fruits of illicit listening in.

Not that tappers and kindred practitioners were riding roughshod over the people's liberties. In the way some believe.

As was already known, an inquiry into the way the eavesdropping tapping and other alleged surveillance malpractices had been used, had been carried out by the distinguished independent expert Lord Bridge, who had given all concerned a clean bill of health.

But now he could reveal that further inquiries into unauthorised tapping and other alleged surveillance malpractices had been carried out by a second distinguished expert: himself. And that had resulted in a clean bill of health as well.

What, said Mr Brittan, must though, was the lack of any outburst of national gratitude for the new high powered tribunal this Bill would create.

There would be five senior lawyers, serving a fixed term, and enjoying Ombudsman-like independence. This government had been more open than any before it in dealing with these issues, Mr Brittan declared, and this bill would be a further step in reinforcing public confidence in a very sensitive area.

But once more his regard was ingratitude. The Shadow Home Secretary, Gerald Kaufman, said his profound concern about the bill had actually been deepened by the preceding 50 minutes of smugness and complacency.

And when Tory MPs pointed out that he was reading this cruel judgment from a prepared text, Mr Kaufman readily agreed. "I wrote it beforehand, knowing the Home Secretary so well, he could not do otherwise."

Far from legislating of its own accord, the Government had been driven into legislating by its defeat in the Malone Case in the European Court of Human Rights.

The bill, it had now produced, was not only inadequate, with other forms of surveillance it dealt not at all.

As for Lord Bridge's inquiry, the mystery was not that he had done it in more five days but that he had been able to spin out the rigged charade for that long.

Unlike the SDP's Roy Jenkins, who has censured Lord Bridge, Mr Kaufman reserved the blame for Mrs Thatcher. Some say, he told the House, that the Prime Minister only did it in a desperate attempt to prove she had a sense of humour.

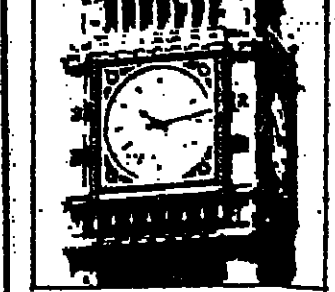
The Home Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary having done, former Home Secretaries, like Sir Edward Gardner, and would simply love to be. Home Secretaries one-day, like Mr Douglas Hogg (C. Grantham, and son of the Lord Chancellor Lord Hailsham), joined the debate.

Mr Hogg repeatedly intervened in a grave and round fashion, which makes one suspect for taking on the job after his own Woolack into the Chamber.

Mr Rees treated the House to much agreeable rambling reminiscent of dramatic decisions taken in smoky rooms in Belfast late at night.

He also admitted that no Home Secretary could possibly know everything that was going on in the dark and complex world. Not at all the impression we got from Lord Brittan.

But then Mr Brittan looked like a man who possessed the magic ingredient: omniscience. Merlyn is far too modest and gentle a soul to nurse a pretension like that.



David McKie

Never fear, Icon's here

GREAT clouds of scepticism swirled over the Opposition benches yesterday as the Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, asked the Commons to give a second reading to his trail-blazing liberal measure, the Interception of Communications Bill.

Unlike their predecessors, said Mr Brittan meaningfully, looking across at the Labour benches where a little cluster of former Home Secretaries — Mr Callaghan and Mr Rees — sat huddled together, this Government was creating a statutory framework for interception, making unauthorised interception a criminal offence, and providing victims of illicit tap with their first ever right of redress. Indeed, in his intervening term, Mr Brittan had promised to give more legislation to punish those who disseminated the fruits of illicit listening in.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Two killed in church explosion

THE BODIES of Father Con Harkin, aged 55, and his housekeeper, Miss Nora Wood, were recovered from the wreckage of St Mary's Church presbytery, Coventry, yesterday after an explosion that completely destroyed the 18th century building.

Police said last night that they were still investigating the cause, but were not treating the explosion as suspicious.

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PLANT

British forests 'safe from acid rain'

By Martin Walwright

The Forestry Commission's first annual survey of plantations in Britain has shown no evidence of widespread damage to trees by air pollution or acid rain.

Conifers were checked for early needle death, thinning of foliage in the upper branches, and the yellowing of needles which has alarmed foresters in Germany.

The survey was undertaken following analysis of damage in German forests which scientists have attributed to a new form of atmospheric pollution. A combination of concentrated fumes, acid mists at high altitudes and drought is thought to be responsible.

Mr Gwyn Francis, the commissioner in charge of forest research, said yesterday that the five-month survey, which has cost £40,000, was reassuring but not a reason for complacency. The exercise will be repeated this autumn and annually thereafter.

He went on: "So far, there has been no reason to believe that British forests are being subjected to the same level of damage as those of continental Europe."

Dr Gunther Hartmann, the senior tree pathologist from the lower Saxony Research Institute in West Germany, said that Britain's climate and geographical position on the edge of Europe, might account for this.

Dr Bill Blinn, the head of the Forestry Commission survey, said that trees were singled out on a grid basis throughout the country and examined through binoculars. The method needed improving, he said.

Most of the samples were 35 to 40 years old, whereas damage in Germany first appeared in trees of 60. Dr Blinn said that the younger trees were chosen because British conifers were usually felled at 55 to 60 years and the survey wanted to monitor individual trees over a period of more than 10 years.

Scottish Friends of the Earth, which first drew attention to unexpected conifer damage in 1984, complimented the commission on the survey, but said that it failed to explain damage to some trees in Britain.

"When will the commission come up with an explanation of what has caused this damage, rather than just of what hasn't?" asked Mr Andrew Kerr, the group's coordinator. He also called for atmospheric monitoring to be carried out by the commission.

Dr Blinn said that investigation of unusual shoot-death and needle-browning reported by Friends of the Earth and commission staff was thought to be due to the winter of 1983/84, particularly alternating cold and mild periods accompanied by strong winds.

Eggs 'injected with poison'

Police were yesterday examining a Kent chicken farm after animal rights campaigners claimed to have injected eggs with lethal doses of rat poison.

Scotland Yard confirmed that there was damage to premises at Greatfield battery farm, Biggin Hill. A woman claiming to speak for the Animal Rights Militia, telephoned the Press Association about the early morning attack.

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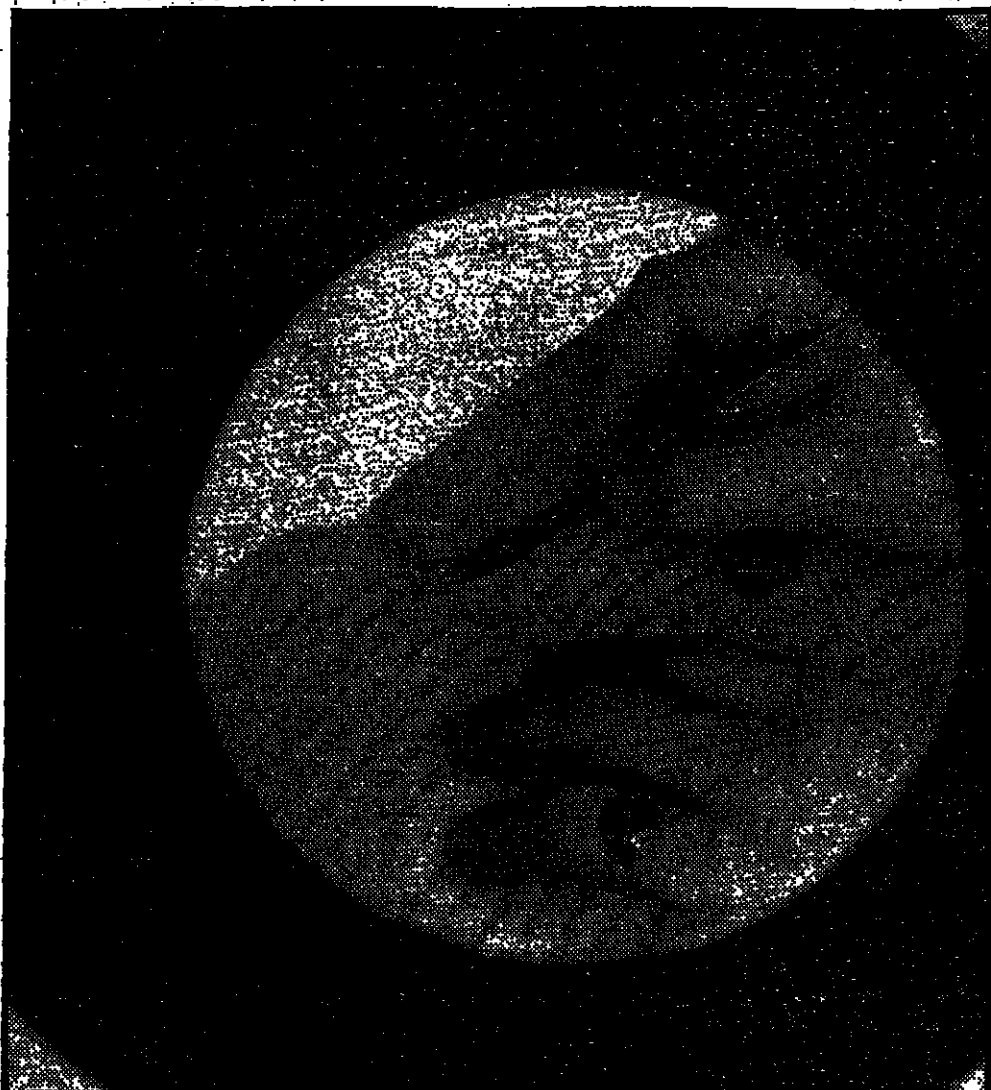
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Through a looking glass: a page of the Domesday Book being taken apart using a scalpel, with the help of a magnifying glass. Picture by Martin Argles

Goats join the sheep in five-volume rebinding of the Domesday Book

By Martin Walwright

THE GOATS are joining the sheep in a rebinding of the Domesday Book, now under way to mark the 900th anniversary of William the Conqueror's famous survey.

The 800 sheets of parchment, each made from a whole sheepskin, will be rebound in five separate volumes between goatskin and oakboard covers.

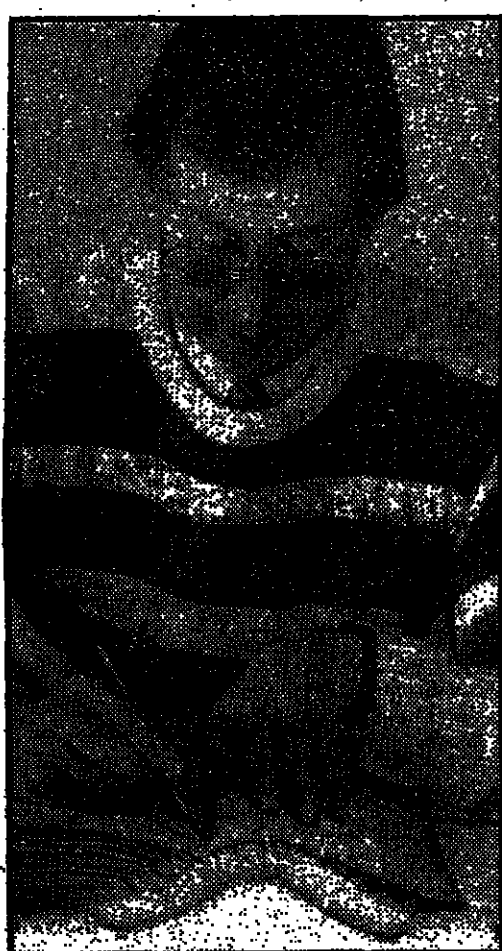
Staff at the Public Record Office are about to start taking the two dummy volumes of the book apart using scalpels. They will work in a "security cage" at the office in Chancery Lane, London, where the restored book will go on display next January.

Dr Helen Ford, head of conservation at the record office, said that the rebinding, the sixth in the book's history, was essential if the pages of Domesday were to be saved from damage when they were turned.

"There has not been the consternation from scholars that might have been expected at the prospect of turning the two volumes into five," she said. All the academics we consulted were rather enthusiastic. We want to ensure that Domesday is fit to last another 900 years."

The last remaining parchment manufacturer in Britain, a Newport Pagnell firm, is providing new material to fill gaps where fragments of the original are missing. Before rebinding, individual pages will be photographed for a facsimile edition which will be on sale next year for £2,000 a copy. Other events to mark the anniversary of the book, which records England's only female ruler, or regent, as well as the number of cells each watermill-owner owed the Crown, include jousting at the Tower of London, the sale of Domesday, and the manufacture by Women's Institutes of Domesday jam.

A modern version of Domesday prepared by the BBC on laser discs is expected to be available after 100 years. Scientists say that the master disc will only match the longevity of the Conqueror's parchment if they are plated with gold.



Don Gubbins, senior binder at the Public Records Office, at work on the Domesday Book.

Court rules police exceeded power in blocking road to peace convoy

A court ruled yesterday that Superintendent David Blake, sitting at Peterborough ruled that the area manager of the authority, Mr John Leech, told the court he only supported the police action after they had already set up the roadblock.

The roadblock was set up to stop a peace-campers' convoy entering an Anglian Water Authority car park on the shores of Greatfield Water near Huntingdon last month.

The two peace-campers were arrested when they refused to move their coach stopped at the entrance. Martin McVillo, aged 19, and Neil Frankham, aged 24, both of no fixed address, had been charged with assaulting police officers. But Huntingdon magistrates

'Keep fraud juries' call

By Malcolm Dean

The Society of Conservative Lawyers yesterday added its voice to the many organisations which have called for the retention of the jury in fraud trials. Its intervention could be the final blow for the Government, which would like to abolish jury trials in complex fraud cases.

In an expanded version of its evidence to the Roskill Committee, which was set up by the Government last year, the society sets out new procedures for speeding up trials, but opposes the idea of abolishing juries.

The two most senior lawyers in the Government—the Lord Chancellor and the Attorney General—have publicly op-

posed juries in long fraud trials. The Government's remit to Roskill was to examine ways of securing "the just, expeditious, and economical disposal of such proceedings."

But a long list of witnesses, including chief police officers, the Law Society, and the Prosecution Solicitors' Society, have all opposed abolishing the jury.

The Conservative Lawyers suggested yesterday that too much time and money was being wasted in trials by defendants keeping their cards hidden until the court hearing.

The society stated that there was no evidence to suggest that juries were incompetent.

Arrest nets youth £750

A 17-year-old youth successfully sued the chief constable of Merseyside in the High Court yesterday for wrongful arrest and detention two years ago and was awarded £750 damages.

Paul Kemp, of West Derby, Liverpool said he and a school friend were leaving waste ground at Mounthells in Liverpool city centre after looking at a burned-out car when he was grabbed by two plainclothes policemen.

They accused him of tampering with car-door handles in a car park. He was arrested and after 21 hours he was charged with interfering with cars.

Mental hospital couple in death leap

By Penny Charlton

A couple who met as inmates of a psychiatric hospital, Mr Graham Coomber, said yesterday that an internal inquiry had begun.

Southend police said no third party had been involved. Post-mortem examinations will be held today and inquests will be held.

The couple were detained at Wickford, Essex, on Monday night, after Mr Clare had, at-

had been making good progress and would not have been detained indefinitely. Mr Clare and Miss Fuller met about six weeks ago, when Mr Clare was admitted to the hospital.

There are more than 650 patients at the hospital which is set in 200-acre grounds. It is not known how the couple made their way to the block of flats at Eastwood.

Gaoled man was part of a team terrorising Gadhafi's opponents

Libyan student gets 15 years for London bombing campaign

A Libyan student was gaoled for 15 years yesterday for his part in a bombing campaign.

The Old Bailey was told that Salim Salem, aged 28, of Penarth Road, Cardiff, was part of a team of supporters of the Libyan leader, Colonel Gadhafi, which planted six bombs in London last March.

Only two of the bombs exploded, said Mr David Jeffreys, QC, a newspaper's shop was damaged and 27 customers, most of them Arabs, were injured at a Mayfair nightclub.

Other bombs were planted in shops selling Arab literature, and an Arab restaurant.

The intended victims may have "done something to incur the displeasure of the Libyan regime," Mr Jeffreys said.

Salem was found guilty of conspiracy to cause explosions likely to endanger life. Another Libyan, Ali Musbah, aged 22, of no fixed address, was acquitted of a similar charge.

A third man, Ali El



Ali Musbah — found not guilty at Old Bailey.

People's Bureau — the

He admitted driving Libyans

around London but denied

knowing anything about the

bombs.

Salem and Mr Musbah were

arrested after police had interviewed El Ghabour.

Many people were unwilling to take part in identification parades and potential witnesses were reluctant to face the accused, the jury was told.

Mr Justice Farquharson told Salem: "It is the worst type of crime you have committed, involving acts both indiscriminate and evil which caused risks to innocent people."

"You came to this country for help, treatment and education and you used us to pursue a fanatical quarrel among your fellow countrymen, whom your cause had reason to dislike."

Salem's counsel, Mr Stephen Winberg, said "enormous pressure" had been brought to bear on him.

At least one Libyan student had committed suicide because of the pressure on him, he added.

Three Libyan students were gaoled recently for plotting and causing explosions in Manchester.

Plan fuels fears for safety standards

By Sarah Roseley

The Health and Safety Commission is proposing that local authorities, insurance companies, and other bodies should take over much of its work inspecting factories and checking safety standards.

In its Plan of Work for 1985-6 and onwards, published yesterday, the commission says that it sees its future as a consultative and advisory body, setting standards and giving guidance.

This is a move away from its present role as the chief regulatory body, with an army of inspectors in the field checking that factory and site standards are up to scratch.

Unions representing the

recently depleted ranks of factory inspectors have been quick to criticise the proposal on the grounds that it will lead more employers to cut safety corners.

The commission suggests in the consultative document that it should reserve its resources for areas now seen as the greatest risk — the new high technology industries — although it admits that difficulty collecting accurate and up-to-date statistics means that in its present role as chief

regulatory body, with an army of inspectors in the field checking that factory and site standards are up to scratch.

It-health is seriously deficient. In traditional industries, it says, the commission's role should be to ensure that other

people are doing the work.

Local authorities and insurance companies already do some inspection work, and this could be increased. Another scheme suggested is "health and safety assurance," whereby a company's management could satisfy the HSC that its safety standards were high enough. It would be exempt from regular inspections.

Dr John Cullen, the commission chairman, denied that change of direction could lead to the commission scrapping inspections. "This is extremely unlikely to happen when you realise we have three very powerful TUC commissioners," he said.

The union says that traditional areas of industry which the commission is suggesting should be policed by other than its own inspectors include some of the most dangerous activities in industry, such as construction, demolition and work with certain hazardous chemicals.

ADVERTISEMENTS

A TAX ON WHAT YOU READ... A TAX ON WHAT YOU KNOW

In the Budget next week the Government — already obsessed with secrecy — may sign the death warrant for scores of newspapers and magazines; consign thousands of journalists and print workers to the dole queue; ensure rejection slips for hundreds of authors whose books would otherwise have been published; and put education financially beyond the reach of thousands of would-be students.

Chancellor Lawson can do all this and more by announcing the introduction of Value Added Tax on the sales and advertising revenue of newspapers, magazines and books.

It would be a return to Victorian values with a vengeance — the first tax on knowledge since newspaper stamp duty was abolished in 1855.

The National Union of Journalists calls for this threat to be lifted.

'On the general principle of avoiding a tax on knowledge we intend that books, journals, newspapers and broadcasting shall be at zero rate.'

Iain Macleod, introducing the idea of VAT to the Conservative Party conference, October 1989.

Newspapers could see 7,000 jobs axed — many of them local journalists covering councils, courts and community news. 100 daily and weekly titles could disappear.

Magazines — two thirds of Britain's 6,000 titles are published by vulnerable small firms and individuals. Readers could either lose specialist publications or suffer from the growth of monopoly publishers.

Book sales are already hit by education and library cuts. VAT would mean fewer titles published, higher prices and publishers going for best sellers instead of best quality.

The NUJ's opposition to VAT is not merely self-interested. We have long argued for higher quality news coverage, more diversity, and the maximum amount of information available for everyone. All these aims are now at risk.

The Government must not go ahead with this tax on knowledge. If the Chancellor tries to bring it in, MPs must be persuaded to throw out his plans in the Commons.

Join the NUJ in this campaign. Write to the Chancellor, write to or phone your MP. Do it now. Don't wait for your newspaper or magazine to stop publication.

By then it will be too late.



National Union of Journalists. Acorn House, 314 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8DP 01-278 7916

If you work in journalism or publishing, the NUJ has something to offer. JOIN NOW

Disruptive action challenge

welcomed by Solihull

NUT threatens second council over £2 penalty

By Andrew Mowbray, Education Staff

The National Union of Teachers threatened yesterday to take a second council to court unless it withdraws a £2-a-lesson penalty imposed on teachers who take part in disruptive action.

Solihull council, in Birmingham, immediately welcomed the move, which could settle the key issue of whether the teachers' action amounts to a boycott of voluntary duties — as the union claims — or contractual obligations, as the employers insist.

Mr Nick Bardsley, Solihull's deputy town clerk, yesterday said the council is not unhappy that the challenge has been taken up by the NUT.

The NUT warned yesterday that it would act unless a letter setting out the pay-docking proposals was withdrawn by the end of the week. Solihull will not do so.

Newcastle upon Tyne, which has received a similar ultimatum, also confirmed yesterday that it would defend itself in court.

Sixteen authorities have now told their teachers that they refuse to cover for absent staff, the most damaging of the sanctions which the NUT has asked members to impose during its pay campaign.

The union is also seeking teachers to refuse lunch-time duties and activities, and to boycott out-of-hours staff and parents' meetings.

Another 50 education authorities have reserved their position, among them Birmingham, which could decide today to start docking wages.

Employers suspect that the union's legal action, which could take six weeks to come to court, is aimed at persuading councils to hold their fire.

The third round of the NUT's three-day selective strikes

started yesterday, involving 6,000 teachers in 393 schools. One region of the union, the West Midlands, calculates that more than 200,000 days of education have already been lost in its area alone.

The union estimates that this week's action will affect more than 275,000 children in England and Wales. More children are also being affected by an indefinite series of shorter stoppages organised by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

The teachers are seeking a relative salary levels they step towards restoration of the relative salary levels they achieved in 1974. This year they want at least an extra £1,200 for all teachers, which would add nearly 12.5 per cent to the pay bill. They have rejected a 4 per cent, and the two largest unions continue to oppose arbitration.

Another document produced by the NUT yesterday confirmed, it said, union criticism of the employers for their handling of the pay-docking proposals.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT, issued copies of a letter, said to have been written on January 2 by Mr Philip Merridale, leader of the employers' side in the pay negotiations, to the chairman of Education and Worcester education committee.

It states: "If it had not been for these proposals we would be facing a total disaster in the coming negotiations this year on teachers' pay."

The NUT has accused the employers of continuing to press teachers to discuss the package, although they had known since last November that its estimated cost of 7.5 per cent in the first full year was out of reach.

O Fiaich 'one Ireland' call outdated, says Hurd

From Gareth Parry in Belfast

Mr Douglas Hurd said yesterday that the Prime of All Ireland, Cardinal O Fiaich, was "rather old-fashioned" in his controversial weekend advocacy of a united Ireland.

The Northern Ireland Secretary's remark has, in turn, surprised those who see the issue of union and partition remaining paramount.

Mr Hurd said in Belfast: "People are not so much arguing about partition and the border — obviously they have differing views about it — but they are now arguing about how we in Northern Ireland can have a country and a system which everybody in both communities accepts as the small minority of terrorists."

"I think this is what the real discussion is — also what

kind of solid co-operative, relationship we can have with the south."

The Primate said in Boston, Massachusetts, at the weekend that Britain should withdraw its troops from Northern Ireland and that it was only a matter of time before Catholics would outnumber Protestants in the province.

Cardinal O Fiaich was roundly criticised by several Unionist MPs as a propagandist for Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA.

His critics were joined by Mr John Kelly, a prominent member of the Dublin ruling coalition and a Fine Gael representative at the New Ireland Forum.

He said the cardinal's remarks were "calculated to have the worst effect on the northern majority and bishops should avoid making political statements of this sort."



CASTING OFF SEXISM: A girl examines the efforts of one of two boys during a knitting lesson at Hanover Primary School in north London, where the Inner London Education Authority yesterday launched a campaign to provide equal opportunities in its schools and colleges. Picture by Garry Weaser.

NEWS IN BRIEF

RUC man spots IRA bomb under car

AN ARMY marksman shot away an IRA booby trap bomb taped beneath a police reservist's car at Killen, County Tyrone yesterday, writes Gareth Parry.

The part-time Royal Ulster Constabulary man, who is a teacher, spotted the bomb when he checked his car before leaving his home on the Tyrone border for his school at Castlebridge. The bomb, in a plastic lunch box, contained 6lbs of explosive. It was defused after being dislodged.

Rugby player in twin deaths case

A FORMER Welsh rugby international, Walter Williams, stabbed his wife Janet to death and then killed himself with a shotgun, it was revealed yesterday.

The bodies of the couple, both aged 41, were found in a kitchen of their farmhouse near Neath, west Glamorgan, after their son Edward, aged 11, ran to the home of relatives nearby to seek help because his parents were arguing.

New Bishop of Exeter named

THE Suffragan Bishop of Willesden, the Right Reverend Hewlett Thompson, is to be the new Bishop of Exeter. He succeeds the Right Reverend Eric Mercer, who retires at the end of May.

Bishop Thompson was named after his godfather, the "Red Dean" of Canterbury, the late Dr Hewlett Johnson, but yesterday he denied any automatic radical political pedigree.

Wales twinned with Lesotho

WALES and Lesotho were officially twinned at a ceremony in Cardiff yesterday attended by Lesotho's High Commissioner, Mr O. T. Sefako, and members of Dolen Cymru (Wales Link), set up two years ago under the presidency of the former Archbishop of Wales, Dr Gwilym Williams.

Similarities between the two countries — their mountains, sheep farms, strong choral traditions, and bilingualism — prompted the link-up.

Author freed from bankruptcy

MRS Thatcher's former speechwriter, the Irish-born political author Patrick Cosgrave, was given a discharge from his £18,700 bankruptcy yesterday.

Dr Cosgrave, aged 43, from Fulham, London, whose assets realised £1,450, told the court that his financial problems began in the seventies. His second wife, Norma, left him in 1980, and his daughter, Rebecca, was made a ward of court.

Detective Chief Inspector William Forman said he told Paul Brown that a transcript had been made of his 999 telephone call to Scotland Yard on May 28 last year. In the call, Brown said his Fiesta car, with Louise inside, had been taken from outside a shop in Battersea Park Road, London.

A second officer concluded that Brown, aged 30, of Tiersy Road, Streatham, south London did not sound like a father whose baby had been stolen. He appeared very nervous rather than distressed, as if he were afraid of what he was saying, the court was told.

Stand on illegal rate will affect chances of candidates for MP

By Martin Linton

THE RIFT between Mr Ken Livingstone, the leader of the Greater London Council, and his deputy, Mr John McDonnell, will lead to a permanent split in the Labour left in London, and also have repercussions on the selection of Labour candidates.

Mr Livingstone faces his first meeting this week in his attempt to win the Brent East, north London, nomination.

He hopes to replace the sitting MP, Mr Reg Ffreeson, but fears that the events of the last week, when he appeared to be outflanked on the left by his deputy, may cost him a few votes in Brent's hard left Labour Party.

Mr McDonnell will soon be involved in his own attempt at selection in Bow and Poplar in London's East End, where he hopes to succeed the veteran Labour left-winger Mr Ian Mikardo. It seems likely that his refusal to vote for the maximum legal rate will have strengthened his position in Bow's equally hard left Labour Party.

Mr Paul Boateng, chairman of the GLC's police committee, will also be a leading

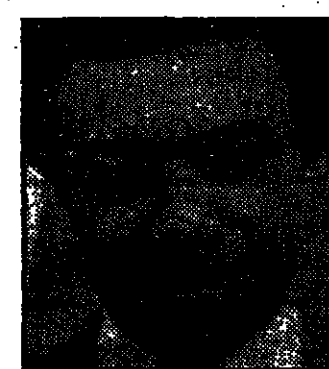


John McDonnell (left) and Paul Boateng: Rebels in search of seats in Parliament

contender for two London seats where the sitting MP is retiring, Brent South and Hackney North. He was among the 10 Labour rebels who refused to vote for the maximum legal rate.

The GLC has been alive with accusations and counter-accusations that the various candidates for parliamentary seats were trying to earn kudos from the hard left by supporting an illegal budget while trying to avoid the risk of disqualification from public office that would follow an illegal budget.

Many observers believed that the illegal budget was



John McDonnell (left) and Paul Boateng: Rebels in search of seats in Parliament

never in any danger of being carried in the GLC, because the Conservatives and the Labour right wing could combine to set a legal rate.

But there was a very real danger of that happening in the Inner London Education Authority, made up of councillors from the inner London boroughs. Labour had a much larger majority on the authority than on the GLC and Labour left wingers nearly had a majority in favour of setting no rate.

Mr McDonnell and Mr Boateng represent outer London constituencies and are not members of the GLC, so they

did not run any real risk of being debarred from public office, whereas Mr Livingstone did run such a danger when he voted to set no rate for the GLC.

The result was that a siege mentality grew up among the inner London councillors who felt, rightly or wrongly, that they were being left in the front line to take the risks. This was increased when the London boroughs, led by Mr Ted Knight, decided to postpone their legal confrontation with the Government.

The rift between Mr Livingstone and Mr McDonnell has divided the hard left in London into two camps. One supports Mr Livingstone and the other the campaign for all-out confrontation with the Government led by Mr Knight and Mr McDonnell.

But while Mr McDonnell's uncompromising position is likely to win him supporters on the Labour far left and the Trotskyist groups, it will create real problems for him within the GLC Labour group, where he might now be challenged for his positions as chairman of the finance committee and deputy leader.

Labour rejects Left plan for Nato pull-out

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

Leftwingers yesterday failed in an attempt to launch a revision of Labour defence policy designed to pave the way for Britain's withdrawal from Nato.

The international committee of the Labour Party's national executive rejected a plan by Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer calling for a new policy statement to be drawn up for this year's party conference which would effect a radical shift in Labour's attitude to Nato.

By 9 votes to 5 the committee decided against the proposal, and went on to vote in favour of existing policy, approved by last year's conference, which Mr Benn and Mr Heffer voted against.

Their paper argued that the assumption behind Western defence thinking that a Soviet attack on Western Europe was likely no longer had any factual basis. "While people continue to believe it they may never accept Labour's non-nuclear policy," it said.

It went on to attack the relationship with Washington. Britain was no more than a client state, it argued, and the US military technology and intelligence for the building and operation of nuclear weapons.

"We are expected, in return, to accept their missiles and furnish them with all the intelligence that we gather through our own security services, the Special Branch and GCHQ," Mr Benn and Mr Heffer said.

They argued that an incoming Labour government would not implement its existing policy without implacable opposition from Washington and the rest of Nato.

Mr Benn and Mr Heffer called for a re-examination of policy in "a full, realistic public debate" designed to develop a new Labour approach which would prepare the way for a withdrawal from Nato, and to be put to the conference by the NEC.

Although the proposal was defeated yesterday, it is clearly an issue to which senior figures on the Left intend to return. But the party leadership appears confident that any proposal to commit the party to withdraw from Nato will fail.

Acquittal over Elton John watch

Cornelius Culwick — re-arrested after trial

A MAN was cleared yesterday of receiving a £6,000 Cartier gold and diamond watch stolen from pop star Elton John, and then promptly re-arrested.

Cornelius Culwick, aged 31, a builder, of Gloucester Road, Croydon, had just thanked the Old Bailey jury for acquitting him of handling the watch, which was found in the folds of his pyjamas during a police raid.

Then, as two officers escorted him away, he said: "I cannot comment at the moment. I've just been arrested. I have nothing to do with the Elton John case."

Mr Culwick had told the court he was given the watch by a mutual friend, Tommy Williams as a gift. He said, that the singer had given Williams the watch.

Giving evidence, Elton John said the watch had vanished in March 1983 when he was with Mr Williams and some friends at his home at Windsor, Berkshire.

He had made and pushed it away. He was asked why he referred to Louise as "it." He replied: "I don't know. It looks bad, doesn't it? We did not name it. . . . There, I have said it again."

Brown added: "We only called her 'Louise' after she was taken because we were asked her name."

Lodgings 'twice the cost of council homes'

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Council homes could be built for homeless families at half the cost of social security payments to landlords of board and lodging houses, Shac, the London housing aid centre said yesterday.

A Shac report claimed that it cost £20,000 a year in board and lodging payments to house one family in inner London, while debt charges and housing benefit subsidies would drop to £9,817 if a couple with two children were allocated a council house.

Outside London, the Department of Health and Social Security pays £12,000 a year to provide a family with board and lodging, while the financial benefit of council provision is undeniable.

Homeless families placed in bed and breakfast accommodation have doubled in number from 1,620 to over 3,000 in three years according to the report.

Some families live for up to three years in bed and breakfast accommodation and 80 per cent of London boroughs provide board and lodging.

The biggest increases of

those given lodgings—from over 49,000 to 139,000 between 1979 and 1984—comprise single homeless people.

The report called on the Government to reverse its policy of cutting housing funds and spending more on social security. It said that local authorities should be allowed to spend more cash on housing.

"Bed and Breakfast: Slum Housing of the Eighties" by Jean Comway and Peter Kemp. Available from Shac, the London Housing aid centre, 189a Old Brompton Road, London SW5. Price £2.95.

Move to cut overtime

By John Ardill, Labour Correspondent

Men are working overtime all day Saturday and Sunday in some naval dockyards and other Ministry of defence establishments as part of the Government's drive to keep down the number of its employees, it was claimed yesterday.

Unions representing the 174,000 blue-collar civil servants are seeking a limit on overtime as part of their 1985 pay claim. They also want a substantial increase in pay and holidays and a reduction in standard working hours.

Mr Peter Black, public services national officer of the Electrical Electronic Telecommunications and Plumbing Union said the excessive overtime worked in some establishments was "all part of the Government's obsession with numbers. They are also employing casual labour to cover for shortages."

Churches' aid anger

By Martyn Halsall, Churches' Correspondent

British and Irish churches are expected to unite later this month to attack the Government's failure to support the World Bank special fund for famine countries in Africa.

Censure motions about the Government's response to the famine and its plans to cut aid in real terms in the next three years, are to be debated at the British Council of Churches' assembly in Liverpool on March 28.

The motions follow discussions in Strasbourg by the "joint task force," a coalition of Roman Catholic and Protestant churches who aim to increase EEC aid to the Third World.

The task force's moderator, the Rev John Reardon, said yesterday that while other countries had made extra funds available for Africa, there was concern among European churches that the British Government was lagging behind, despite the public's generous response to appeals.

The BCC represents 27 Protestant denominations. The Roman Catholic Church is an observer, but is said to fully agree with the condemnation of the Government.

Public concern was also shown this week by the 750,000 people who signed a petition to the Prime Minister calling for emergency aid to be continued for another year, the Government to support similar action by the Common Market and more spending on long term aid.

The United Reform Church, of which Mr Reardon is a senior member, wrote to the leaders of all four main political parties on February 8, criticising the Government's reaction to the famine and suggesting increased taxation was preferable to inadequate aid. Mrs Thatcher alone has yet to reply, a URC spokesman said yesterday.

Go to town with The Guardian

On Thursday, 11th April, The Guardian will be holding a special day at Dickens & Jones in Regent Street.

In addition to the normal temptations of this great London store, we have arranged for an intriguing selection of conversations, presentations and demonstrations throughout the day.

And through a special arrangement with British Rail, The Guardian can offer you two away-day return tickets to London for the price of one.

Your B.R. voucher for the event will be in The Guardian on April 8th, 9th and 10th. Among the events of this most civilised of away days will be:

Writer's Forum
A chance to meet Guardian writers and talk about their work.

Family Finance Advice
A talk on your financial affairs by Margaret Dibben, author of The Guardian Guide to Family Finance.

Food & Wine
A full menu of demonstrations and conversation about cooking, drinking and serving wine and just how healthy your diet is.

Wine Tasting
A tutored wine tasting presented by Haynes, Hanson and Clark, suppliers to The Guardian Wine Club.

Fashion Show
A display of Dickens & Jones's latest collections. With a champagne from Highland Klein.

Careers Advice
A talk on general careers advice for women with a chance to meet representatives from different occupations.

Exercise Demonstrations
A series of dance and exercise demonstrations.

Personal Appearance
A chance to meet leading figures from the worlds of beauty and fashion. Pooey Simmonds will also be signing her recent books.

SPECIAL LUNCH
with guest speaker Peter Preston discussing his role as Editor of The Guardian.

For full details including how to apply for tickets for the lunch and wine tasting see The Guardian Personal Page today.

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repayable 12 months:

22% (23-4% APR) to 24% (25-7% APR)

Secured Rate (variable)

16% (typically 16-9% APR)

No change

*Typical APR based on average loan of

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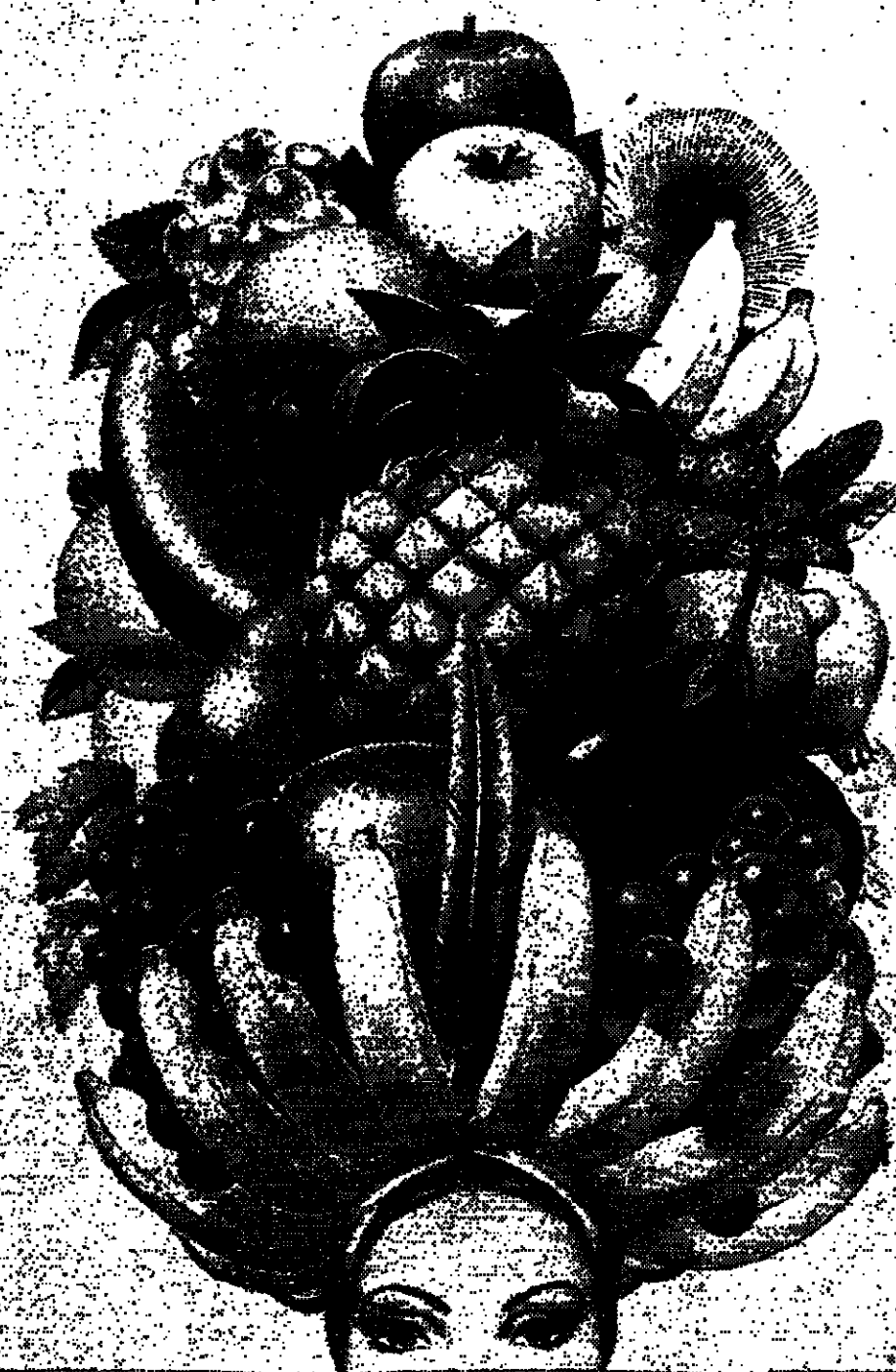
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POLITICAL FUNDS

Vote no to levy —SDP

By Martin Linton

The Social Democratic Party launched its campaign yesterday for a "no" vote in the ballots that trade unions will have to hold in the next 12 months on the future of their political funds.

At present such funds provide nearly 50 per cent of the Labour Party's income. The SDP has so far raised £10,000 for its campaign, which will consist of publicity, leaflets and stickers and meetings at trade union conferences, where their slogan will be to "take party politics out of the workplace."

Launching the campaign, Mr Bill Rodgers, one of the party's founders said that only 38 per cent of trade unionists voted Labour at the last election and that — on his rough estimates — about three million trade unionists are paying the political levy although they did not vote Labour.

He accused the Conservatives, who are not participating in the campaign, of preferring to retain "this corrupt relationship which enables the Labour Party to keep its head above the parapet just about and enables the Conservative Party to keep its traditional forum of finance."

He also accused the Labour Party of having a "corrupt relationship" with the trade unions in the sense that their affiliation to the Labour Party, which yielded an income of nearly £3 million last year, was not endorsed by the members themselves.

The SDP has written to the leaders of 47 trade unions suggesting that they should have an additional ballot of their members to ask them whether they want to be affiliated to the Labour Party before they have a ballot on the existence of the political fund itself. If they did this, the SDP would not campaign for a "no" vote over the political fund issue.

Polite refusals had come from 11 trade unions "and a couple of rude replies," Mr Rodgers said yesterday, and as a result it will campaign for a "no" vote in each of the union ballots which will be spread mainly over the summer and autumn of this year.

Mr Rodgers claimed that the workplace ballots will result in strong pressure on trade union members to vote "yes".

Police mount inquiry on TV allegations — Brittan

PHONE TAPPING

By Alan Travis

THE POLICE are to investigate allegations that the security services committed criminal offences in the course of surveillance, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Enderby, has asked the Metropolitan Police to look into the charges, made in the Channel 4 film, *MIS Official Secrets*, and report back to him.

Mr Brittan also announced that new legislation will be prepared based on the Law Commission's proposals on the law of breach of confidence.

The Home Secretary also announced that he had carried a parallel inquiry into that conducted by Lord Bridge and concluded that the security service had carried out no operation, investigation, surveillance or action against any individual other than for the purposes laid down.

Mr Brittan was opening the Second Reading debate on the Government's Interception of Communications Bill, which was denounced as a "telephone tapper's charter" by Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Shadow Home Secretary.

Mr Kaufman said that the Government's response to allegations in the television film was to cover up and produce a bill whose criteria were so vague and so sweeping that it would be a phone tapping charter.

He argued that the bill's safeguards were almost meaningless and, compared to the likely results of the proposed tribunal to watch over interceptions, the Bridge Report will look like "a mighty blow for civil liberties."

The Home Secretary said

the bill would provide for the first time a clear and comprehensive statutory framework for the interception of communications and created a new offence of unauthorised interception, with a means of redress for those wishing to complain about it.

He outlined the events in the last two months surrounding the allegations made in the film and said they covered four areas: interception which had been authorised in circumstances which did not warrant it; unauthorised interception; security services operating improperly in investigation and surveillance other than interception, and criminal offences that might have been committed.

The Prime Minister had ordered Lord Bridge, the chairman of the Security Commission, to investigate the first allegation and he had concluded that no warrant had been issued in contravention of the appropriate criteria.

Replying to criticism about the narrowness of Lord Bridge's remit, Mr Brittan said: "His task was not confined to establishing that the necessary formalities had been complied with in respect of any warrant which was issued."

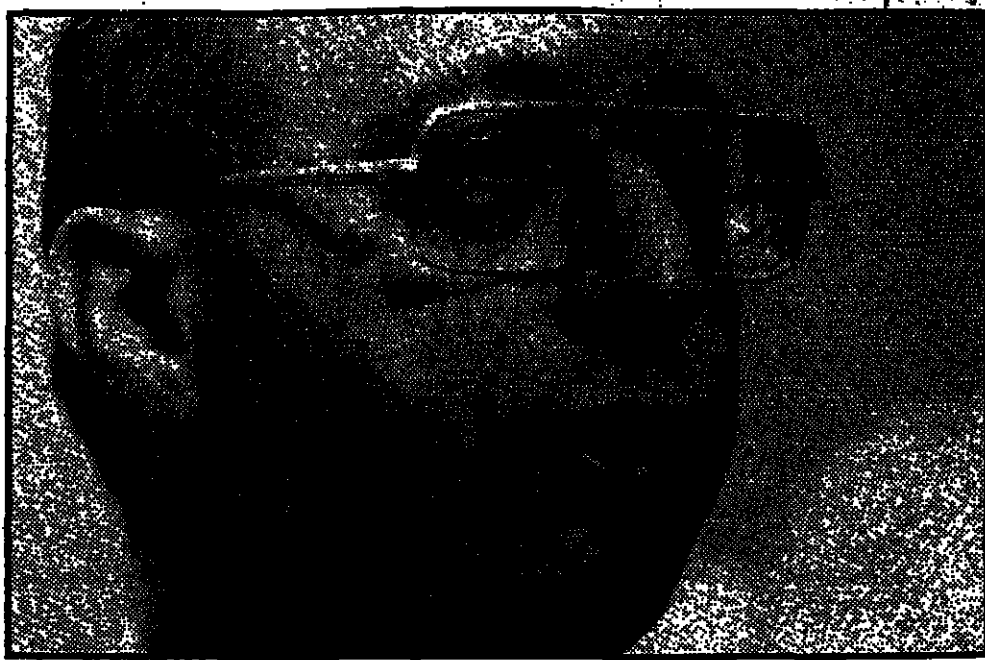
"He had to consider the merits of any application in order to satisfy himself that it was properly regarded as coming within the established criteria for permitting interception."

"In other words, if the basis of application was subversion, Lord Bridge's task included satisfying himself that interception could be justified on that ground."

Allegations concerning unauthorised interceptions were not his concern.

Mr Brittan said he had taken steps himself to examine all the allegations that the security services had operated improperly in relation to investigations into subversive activity.

He went on: "I have con-



Mr Kaufman: 'The vague and sweeping bill is a phone-tapping charter'

cluded, in the light of the allegations that have been made and my inquiries into them that the Security Service has carried out no operation, investigation, surveillance or action against any individual other than for the purposes laid down in its directive and with propriety which successive governments have rightly demanded of it."

The Home Secretary added that he was also satisfied that the Security Service did not carry out any interceptions without the authority of the Secretary of State.

"No member of a trade union — nor for that matter any individual — need fear that he is the object of surveillance by the security authorities unless his own actions and intentions bring him within the strict criteria set out in the definition of subversion."

He reminded MPs that the definition, first enunciated

by a Labour Government was "activities which threatened the safety or wellbeing of the state, and which are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means."

Mr Brittan said that both elements of definition had to be satisfied: "It is, therefore, crystal clear that political campaigning to change the mind of the Government or people generally about political issues cannot constitute subversion."

"But that does not mean that the security services should be prevented from investigating someone whose activities do threaten the safety or wellbeing of the state and are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy, just because that person happens to be a member of a trade union or a political pressure group."

Mr Brittan announced that legislation would be introduced to safeguard people against the use of information gained by improper means.

It would provide the victim himself with a direct means of redress and would offer people an important and wholly new safeguard in an area of legitimate concern.

Mr Brittan said that the police had estimated that, in the past 10 years, 5,000 people had been arrested in England and Wales as a result of authorised phone tapping and drugs worth £1.5 million had been seized through the same methods.

Mr Brittan then outlined the provisions in the bill, which included the formation of a tribunal of five senior lawyers to examine complaints from those who believe they have been illegally phone tapped.

Mr Brittan said that the government response is not to allay fears by seeking the truth but to ask, 'how can we cover it up?'

Mr Kaufman said that one clause which extended the duration of interception warrants from two months to six months would be hailed as a "phone tapper's charter."

"The safeguards in the bill are almost meaningless. The tribunal is not effective. It is to be composed of five lawyers. It would be useful to have a communications engineer as a member."

"If MIS waste so much time spying on the likes of Joan Ruddock it is no wonder that for so long it was unable to find a spy like Michael Betlaney in its ranks."

Mr Kaufman concluded.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff S), the former Labour Prime Minister, said it was necessary to have a group of outsiders who could discuss their priorities and activities.

"I do believe that there would be an advantage because ministers should not get too intimately involved in the affairs of MIS, in having some discussion between the head of MIS and a group of outsiders — I will not define them any more closely than that at the moment — about the targeting, the priorities of MIS from time to time, fairly regularly."

Mr Callaghan said it was important to have a group of people who knew about the "ebb and flow of political activity" who could discuss whether or not the Communist Party or the Workers' Revolutionary Party should be targeted.

"It is important to maintain the morale of MIS, which has been pretty badly shaken by recent events."

"But at the of the day it was the civil liberties of the people that MIS was about and the security service should not misjudge its own remit."

Mr Brittan said that the government response is not to allay fears by seeking the truth but to ask, 'how can we cover it up?'

Mr Brittan said that the government response is not to allay fears by seeking the truth but to ask, 'how can we cover it up?'

MPs launch new all-party race relations group

By Colin Brown

A NEW all-party parliamentary group on race relations which was launched yesterday will be meeting the Home Office Minister, Mr David Waddington, to raise criticisms of government policy on immigration.

Ms Clare Short, the Labour MP for Birmingham, Ladywood, who chairs the group, said the delegation

would be taking up the criticisms made in the immigration report of the Commission for Racial Equality.

The launching of the all-party group with the vice-chairman, Mr Geoffrey Lawler, the Tory MP for Bradford North, and Mr Robert Macdonald, the SDP member for Calthorpe, appeared to be greeted sceptically by some journalists.

One black journalist said that the race record of previous Tory and Labour Governments "stank."

Ms Short said: "I agree with you. Ms Short claimed that the situation in Britain 'contrary to all expectations of optimism, is not improving.' There were clear levels of racism in employment, she added. 'Racism is as bad as ever.' She hoped to see

some black MPs in the next Parliament.

The Cadbury Trust is paying for a full-time secretary for the group, and its work will include studies of new training schemes and equal opportunities for ethnic minorities, racial harassment and housing and funding for ethnic minority projects affected by the abolition of the Greater London Council.

Oil price concern

By our Political Staff

Energy ministers will be questioned tomorrow about the all-party Select Committee report which reprimanded the Government for apparently using public money to maintain high North Sea oil prices.

The report, which told the Government to drop its pretence of not interfering in the

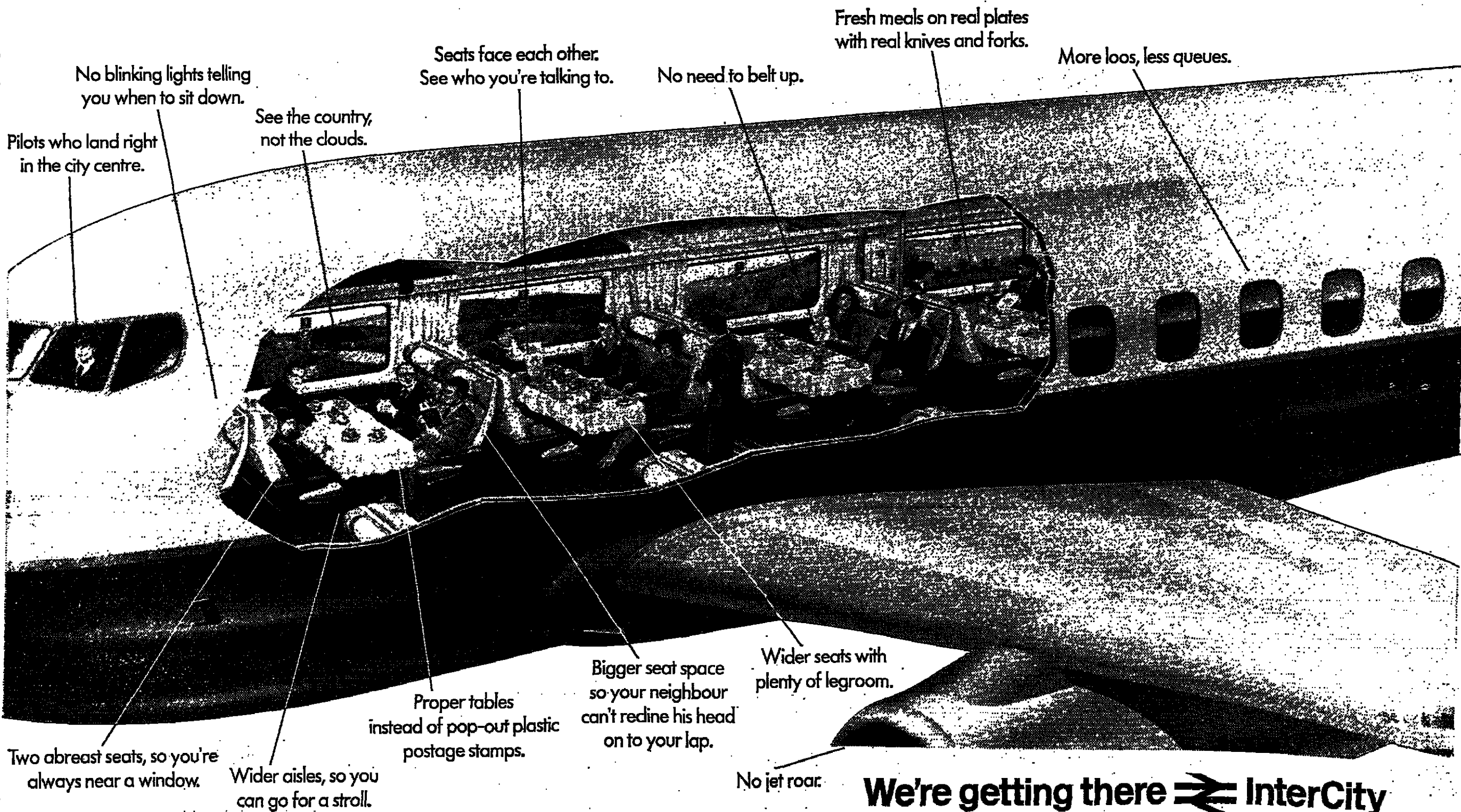
oil market, will be raised during a Commons debate on a supplementary payment of over £20 millions to keep the British National Oil Corporation solvent.

The committee expressed satisfaction in obtaining an admission recently from the Energy Minister, Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, that the Government had an interest in the oil price.



Ms Short: 'First test'

How to improve a plane.



السنة الأولى من العمل

Jerusalem declares war on 'terrorists'

Lebanese ambush kills three as resistance hardens

Two Israeli soldiers died in an ambush in South Lebanon, as the resistance exacted revenge for Monday's devastating raid by Israel, but in Washington, the US is reluctant to accept President Mubarak's suggestion that it should begin a new Middle East peace process.

From our Correspondent in Zrariye

The people of Zrariye buried their dead in two mass graves yesterday as the Lebanese resistance exacted quick revenge for Monday's devastating raid, killing two Israeli soldiers in an ambush near the front-line Kasbiye bridge.

Beirut Radio said that one attacker was killed. The Shi'ite movement Amal said the ambush was in retaliation for the attack on Zrariye, an acknowledged centre of the Lebanese resistance, but outside Israel's zone of occupation.

The Israeli Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, speaking on a visit to the occupied south, confirmed Lebanese fears that Jerusalem will henceforth observe no borders in its fight against the "terrorists" who are protesting against its occupation.

"Anywhere there are terrorists, wherever an operation is initiated, we will get there," Mr Rabin said. "It doesn't matter whether the front line is here or there."

Mr Rabin said that Israel might consider an early pull-back from the most dangerous Shi'ite areas of the south, but added: "If I have such a recommendation, I will first bring it to the government — not to the media."

The raid on Zrariye — "a first-rate operation," according

to Mr Rabin — left 40 people dead, 37 wounded and 200 reportedly arrested. The handful of resistance fighters who said they feared there were more bodies on the far side of town where there was a continuing danger of sniper fire.

In Zrariye, women mourned and men pledged to fight until South Lebanon is free of occupation.

Sheikh Abdul Amir Qabalan, presiding over the burials with

PRESIDENT Hafez al-Assad of Syria was sworn in before Parliament in Damascus yesterday for a third seven-year term. Mr Assad, aged 54, won his third term in a referendum on February 11 with 99.97 per cent of the votes. He became President in 1971 after a bloodless coup.

Reuters.

tears in his eyes, recalled the words of the missing Shi'ite leader, Imam Musa Sad: "We will fight Israel with our teeth and with our nails, until the end."

"Get out of our country," he said. "We are not leaving." After the burial, men chanted, sometimes punching the air with fists: "Our souls, our blood we sacrifice for the south."

There were burial services,

too, in Israel for some of the 12 victims of Sunday's car bombing — one bloody link in the daily lengthening chain of attacks, reprisals, and counter-attacks. At one funeral, a rabbi told the army to "cut off the head of the snake." At another, there were shouts of: "Get out of Lebanon."

Michael White adds from Washington: President Mubarak, of Egypt, looks set to return home today without much in the way of economic or diplomatic progress to show for his visit to Washington.

Although President Reagan decided to host a dinner, due to be given by Vice-President Bush for Mr Mubarak last night, the gesture must be offset against the Administration's unwillingness to accept the Egyptian suggestion that it started the Middle East peace process moving once more by inviting a joint Jordanian-Palestinian group to Washington.

The US is wary of such an approach after past rebuffs and wants an Arab "interlocutor" to deal directly with Israel as Egypt itself did during the Camp David process.

The US seems anxious to encourage Mr Mubarak, whom it regards as a friend, but remains insistent that the PLO explicitly recognise Israel's right to exist and UN resolutions 242 and 338 before it deals directly with it.

Israelis show Zrariye their iron fists

WHEN the Israelis entered this village on Monday, 20-year-old Mohammed Mouazen hid in a crack among rocks behind an olive grove. The Israeli soldiers found him and he came out with his hands up.

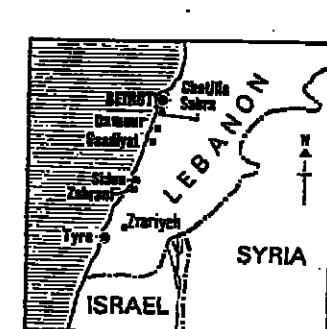
"He was saying: 'I'm in the Lebanese army, not in the militia,'" a friend who saw the incident recalled yesterday. "They shot him in the head."

Mouazen was the only casualty among Lebanese troops in Zrariye, where 40 people died as the occupying army turned a new page in its "iron fist" policy against the Shi'ite "terrorists" to most resistance fighters in the south.

He was the first Lebanese soldier to die in the four consecutive days of the Israeli attacks. An Israeli soldier, also aged 20, died four days earlier in another clash in the nearby village of Kawariyat, 25-Siyad.

As Zrariye buried its dead yesterday, wrapped in plastic bags and arrayed in an unadorned mass grave, stories of Israeli excesses passed from mouth to mouth among the dynamited homes — 40 in all and burnt-out cars. There were

Julie Flint, in south Lebanon, reports on how a village coped in the bitter aftermath of a clash with the occupying army.



that only 17 of the 40 people killed belonged to the politico-military Shi'ite movement Amal. The rest were ordinary people — like the middle-aged man shot dead on the road into town with a truck-load of icons.

"It seems that the Israelis killed a number of people in cold blood," the governor of south Lebanon, Mr Halim Fayyad, said yesterday.

As Mr Fayyad observed the mass burial, villagers came up to him to tell him of their experiences.

One old man, 60 if a day, told him: "They grabbed hold of me in front of everyone, shot over my head and tied my hands behind my back. One of them got me by the hair and threw me down, doing this" and he made a swiping motion with his hand.

"He asked my name, I told him: Ali Haydar. He told me: 'There are no Haydars in Zrariye.' They know everything." He was, he said, from another village.

Mr Haydar said the Israelis told him: "We are punishing you because the trail" — presumably the resistance trail into the occupied south — "starts here."

Gunmen surrender in embassy siege

From Clyde Sanger in Ottawa

Three armed Armenians shot and blasted their way into the Turkish embassy here yesterday and held at least 11 people hostage, including the wife and two daughters of the ambassador. After four hours the gunmen surrendered to the police.

The ambassador, Mr Coskun Kirca, a prominent figure in Turkey who arrived in Ottawa only two months ago, apparently jumped from an upstairs window and lay injured in the back yard in heavy rain for more than four hours. He was reported to be not seriously injured.

A security guard, who exchanged fire with the intruders lay in the front yard of the walled enclosure all morning. He was later found to be dead.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who have responsibility for the security of diplomats and embassies established telephone contact with the Armenians towards the end of the siege and negotiated the surrender. None of the hostages was hurt.

The three-story embassy building stands by itself in an older part of Ottawa, surrounded by a high wall but overlooked from two tall apartment buildings.

An eyewitness in one of these buildings said she saw two men in dark blue jackets climb the wall about 7 am from the back of a lorry. The security guard shouted at them to get out, and then there was firing. The next

thing, he fell on his back and was groaning horribly.

The group used explosives to blow out the front door of the embassy.

Police placed sharpshooters in the apartment buildings and brought up an armoured personnel vehicle, but they made no attempt to rush the building. About 40 police cars converged in the area, and morning traffic was diverted.

During their first hour of occupation, one of the intruders answered questions on the telephone from a radio reporter.

He said their group was from the Armenian Revolutionary Army and they had occupied the embassy to recover their ancestral lands "and make the Turkish Government recognise the genocide of 1915" when about 800,000 Armenians were killed or died during deportation.

In 1982, the Armenian Revolutionary Army also claimed responsibility for the killing of the Turkish military attaché and the wounding in a separate incident of the commercial attaché in Ottawa.

Yesterday afternoon, the Canadian ambassador in Ankara was summoned to the Turkish foreign ministry and told of his government's deep concern about the incident and about Canadian security arrangements.

The RCMP say they have been giving the Turkish ambassador and embassy the same protection they give all other embassies. They had not been asked to provide special protection.

Cabinet 'not divided'

Brussels: The Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, yesterday denied that there was a serious split in the Israeli Cabinet about a new Egyptian peace initiative.

"There are certain nuances (within the cabinet) on the evaluation of signals given by President Mubarak," Foreign Minister told a news conference. Mr Shamir said that Mr Mubarak had so far only given general indications on the initiative.

Israel stood by its offer to hold talks with King Hussein of Jordan and Palestinians who did not belong to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, he said.

● Bir Zeit University in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday protested against a two-month forced closure of its main campus by the Israeli army.

Last week, the army closed the new Bir Zeit campus after raiding a student exhibit where it said it found books, letters on making explosives and material promoting violence against Israel and Jews. All 2,300 Bir Zeit students are now squeezed into its old campus built to accommodate 800 people. — Reuters.

Iranians in Piranshahr sort through rubble after the border town was hit by Iraqi missiles

Iran launches fresh offensive after Tehran raid

Bahrain: Iran and Iraq reported fighting yesterday in marshes on the southern Gulf war front, with both sides claiming successes after Iranian troops launched a new attack late on Monday night.

There were no reports of fresh attacks on civilian areas, however, following a midnight GMT deadline set by the UN for an end to such strikes in which hundreds of casualties were reported in the previous eight days.

Shortly before the deadline, Iraqi planes raided Tehran itself for the first time since the outbreak of war in September, 1980, and hit provincial centres in western Iran.

Iran said that five people were killed when three Iraqi jets rocketed northern Tehran about an hour before the midnight truce deadline.

Each side reported inflicting heavy casualties on the other in the latest ground fighting, inside Iran in the flat Hawizah marshes which straddle the border east of the Tigris river.

Iraqa captured the so-called Majnoon islands, a network of man-made dirt roads built to exploit rich oil reserves in the area, in February last year.

An Iranian military statement said that its forces attacked Iraqi infantry and mechanised positions east of the Tigris at 1800 GMT on Monday, and inflicted heavy casualties. A mechanised infantry battalion and 15 tanks

were destroyed and fighting was continuing, it said.

Officials in the southern Iraqi port of Basra described the attack as a "major offensive" and said that fighting was still under way.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said that the attack had been repelled with heavy losses among the Iranian troops.

Meanwhile, the Arab League yesterday appealed to France to promote greater international efforts through the UN Security Council to end the Gulf war.

A ministerial committee led by the Arab League Secretary-General, Mr Chadi

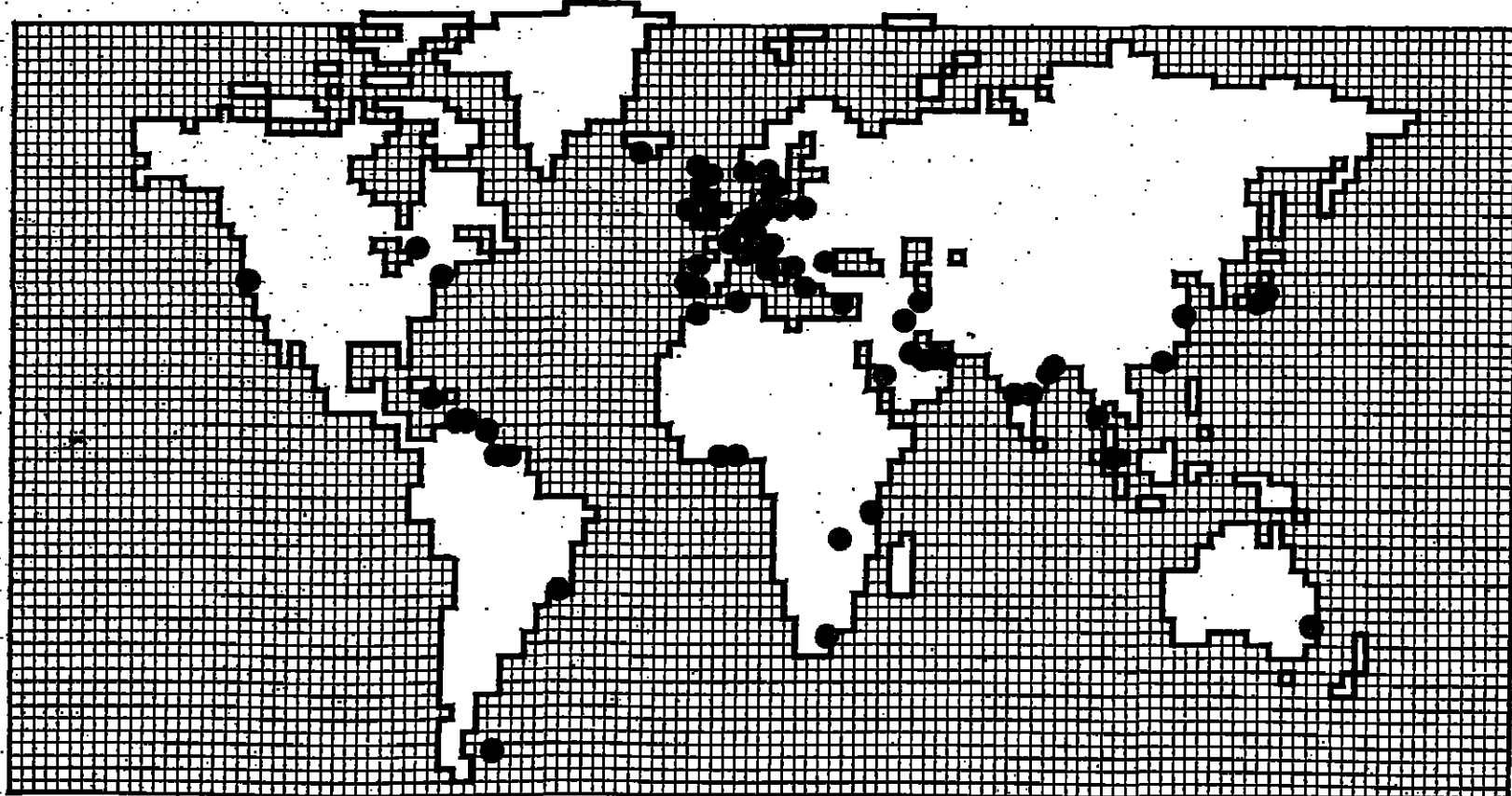
Kilbi, made the request at a meeting in Paris with President Mitterrand.

The seven-member committee had expressed hopes that the international community could take "more dynamic, more energetic" action through the Security Council to stop the fighting, Mr Kilbi said.

In London, Lloyd's Shipping Intelligence said yesterday that Iran and Iraq had hit 127 ships in attacks in the Gulf since May, 1981.

The latest target was the 122,348-ton Liberian tanker Atlanticos, hit on Monday as it left Iran's oil terminal at Kharg Island. — Reuters.

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NEWS
IN BRIEFGreece
put on
notice

THE TURKISH Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, called yesterday for comprehensive negotiations with Athens, but also warned that a "hot situation" would arise if Greece extended its territorial waters.

Addressing journalists based in Athens he appealed for a Greek-Turkish dialogue on the air, sea and seabed issues on which the two nominal NATO allies are deeply divided. Talks could be held anywhere at any level and he was prepared to meet the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu.

Turkish newspapers have said that a move by Greece to extend its waters from six to 12 miles is now more likely following the resignation of the conservative President Constantine Karamanlis and the promotion in the Greek army of "pro-Papandreu" officers.

Turkish officials have said in the past that a move by Greece to extend territorial waters would mean war. Mr Ozal, however, did not think Mr Karamanlis' departure made any difference to Greek policy.—Reuter.

Spanish flight

SPANISH authorities permitted a flight originating in the Falkland Islands to land in Spain for the first time earlier this month on humanitarian grounds. British sources yesterday said that an RAF VC-10 brought a Spanish fisherman, injured while working off the islands, back to Spain. He had been treated at the Port Stanley military hospital.—Reuter.

Low blow

A SOUTH African policeman was yesterday fined about £15 for assaulting a coloured man who later died. The constable punched the man to the ground for dancing with a white woman. The victim was later dropped while being taken to hospital, and a magistrate ruled that the constable's blame for the brain damage which caused death could not be proved.—AP.

Quick change

ITALY'S President Sandro Pertini switched planes yesterday after someone apparently tampered with the Boeing 747 which was to have flown him home from Buenos Aires, airline sources said. An inspection showed that the air valve caps of five tyres were missing; one cap was found in the air intake of an engine.—Reuter.

Windfall

A NEW YORKER has filed a \$20 million suit against the estate of a wealthy woman who landed on him in a suicide leap from the window of her 18th floor flat. Mr Jay Shaham, aged 34, suffered "severe and serious neurological and psychological injuries" for which he is still being treated in hospital.—AP.

Prague appeal

THE Czechoslovak Charter 77 human rights movement has called for the dissolution of military blocs, an independent Europe, and the reunification of Germany. The group urged NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries to open talks. The 45 prominent signatories, including a former Czech foreign minister, Mr Jiri Hajek.—Reuter.

New leader

THE Barbadian Prime Minister, Tom Adams, who was the Lynchpin of the US invasion of neighbouring Grenada 17 months ago, has died of a heart attack at 55, Greg Chamberlain writes. He was succeeded by Mr Bernard St John, his right-hand man during nine years as the island's leader.

Bomb defused

US ARMY experts yesterday defused a large homemade bomb outside an officers' club in the south German city of Boeblingen. West German police said that a people would have been greatly endangered if the bomb had detonated.—AP.

Five to hang

FIVE EGYPTIAN youths have been sentenced to be hanged for kidnapping and raping an 18-year-old. The rape, in a fashionable Cairo suburb in January, caused an uproar, with MPs calling for stricter punishment of offenders.—Reuter.

Police kill two

TWO MEN were killed in rioting in the eastern Cape Province yesterday when police scattered black looters with birdshot. Seven have died in eastern Cape unrest since Friday.—AP.

Star Wars issue remains major
stumbling block to agreementGeneva talks
begin with
promises
of goodwill

From Hella Pick in Geneva

The US and the Soviet Union yesterday began complex and ambitious arms control negotiations with mutual promises of goodwill and political intent.

But few had any illusions about the huge, perhaps impossible, gap to be bridged if any formal agreements are to be achieved.

The first meeting of the principal negotiators lasted almost three hours and was afterwards described by the leader of the US delegation, Mr Max Kampelman, as a serious and businesslike discussion of the issues.

Both sides agreed to meet again tomorrow and decided that confidentiality be maintained to avoid exploiting the negotiations for propaganda.

But the information already available suggests that each side has come to the table with proposals that will encounter powerful objections, and even risk an early deadlock.

The Soviet negotiator, Mr Viktor Karpov, hinted yesterday that President Reagan would meet the new Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev if "it would be beneficial to the cause of world peace." —AP.

day that the Soviet Union will use this forum to table a draft proposal to ban weapons from outer space.

The US, however, refuses to abandon its research programme into space arms, and President Reagan has said that his Strategic Defence Initiative is not negotiable and cannot be traded off against Soviet concessions on nuclear weapons.

On a sunny, frosty morning, there was a wisp of carnival atmosphere around the entrance to the Soviet mission where the two negotiating teams met.

Journalists jostled with members of CND and other West European peace movements to plead that "the arms race stops while you (Americans and Russians) talk."

—Mrs Joan Ruddock, Mgr Bruce Kent, West Germany's Petra Kelly, and half a dozen others were let briefly into the Soviet missions, carrying baskets of flowers and a peace programme, that included a fierce denunciation of Mr Reagan's Star Wars programme. They see it as "a dangerous and grotesque move."

As the US negotiators arrived 12 minutes late, the peace groups formed a silent circle and placed some of their tulips and daffodils in the shape of their peace logo. Across the street, Greenpeace unfurled a disarmament banner from a crane towering precariously over Geneva's ceramics museum.

Inside, Mr Kampelman exchanged lighthearted banter with Mr Karpov, saying that the atmosphere seemed "a good omen." Possibly he was only referring to Mr Karpov's relaxed style.

The Americans also see a positive gesture in Mr Gorbachev's insistence that the Geneva talks begin on schedule. He also emphasised their importance in his first declaration after his election as leader.

Mr Karpov, speaking in smooth English before the curtain fell on the confidentiality of the negotiations, said that the two delegations should stay in Geneva "for some time to make our positions clear to each other."

Reminding journalists that Mr Gorbachev had presided over last week's Politburo meeting which had approved the Soviet negotiating brief, Mr Karpov said: "I am here to negotiate."

The agreed goal of the Geneva talks is "to eliminate nuclear weapons on earth and prevent an arms race in space." In practical terms, the negotiations will concentrate on limits to medium-range and to strategic nuclear weapons. The thorny issue of space weapons and their implications for strategic stability will also be tackled.

Senator Edward Kennedy, a member of a high-powered group of senators here to confirm strong bipartisan support for President Reagan's negotiations, voiced a widespread view, shared by the Soviet Union, when he said that the talks "can truly open up a century of peace."

He believed "that the eyes of the world are now focused on Geneva. No decisions will be more important than those made here during the coming months and years."

Conservatives here, from President Reagan downwards, have tended to emphasise the collective nature of the Soviet leadership and the unlikelyhood that Mr Gorbachev is anything but a very tough nut in a tough bureaucracy. "The impact of this change will be zero," said a former Moscow ambassador, Mr Thomas Watson.

Others point to the pressing need for economic and social reform. Government analysts have placed some store on Mr Gorbachev's visits to Britain and Canada, and particularly his supposed close ties to Hungarian Communist leaders as indicating interest in greater market-orientation, Hungarian-style, in the Soviet economy, while Mr Gromyko continues to run foreign affairs.

Youth is not necessarily proof of radicalism or vigour, and Professor Marshall Goldman, of Harvard University, pointed out that Mr Brezhnev was only 57 when he began his 18 years in power.

To the right of the tier sat the Chernenko family and the personal mourners, receiving the condolences of a long line of dignitaries that began on Monday night with Mr Gorbachev, went yesterday to the Warsaw Pact leaders, and will be joined later today by Mrs Thatcher.

Above the tier, each of the 40 chandeliers was draped in black crepe. The statues around the walls and up the grand staircase, itself dominated by a huge portrait of Mr Chernenko, were draped in black and red. Each mirror was masked in black cloth, and the ceilings hung in great festoons of red and black silk that almost brushed the helmets of the sentries.

Mr Chernenko himself, his white hair nearly brushed back from his broad face

In the centre of the hall, the sentries marked the overpowering mass of pines that drifts up from all the

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Passing of a President: The late Konstantin Chernenko lies in state in the Hall of Columns (top). His widow, Anna Dmitriyevna (centre) and his successor, Mikhail Gorbachev (above) view his funeral bier

Owen
calls for
Vienna
summit

By our Foreign Staff

THE leader of the SDP, Dr David Owen, yesterday urged his own departure for the Chernenko funeral in Moscow with a call for a summit meeting between President Reagan and the new Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

Noting that Mr Reagan had decided against attending the funeral himself, he proposed that Vice-President Bush should propose a summit during the President's European visit early in May.

He suggested that a meeting in Vienna just before the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Day of the Soviet Revolution would be an appropriate moment to attempt the restoration of friendly relations between East and West.

Meanwhile, Mrs Thatcher was herself sending a message of congratulations to Mr Gorbachev on his election as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

She told Mr Gorbachev that she had valued her meeting with him last December as a useful contribution towards establishing closer contact.

According to Whitehall, it is likely Mr Gorbachev will want to move on key issues, now that the months of "Chernenko paralysis" have ended.

The most immediate of these is likely to be the convening of the long-planned summit of leaders of the seven Warsaw Pact members. It had been postponed three times.

It is thought, during President Chernenko's illness. Linked to this is the formal renewal of the pact itself, which is due to expire by May 31.

Another issue, also involving the Eastern Bloc partners, is the shape and scope of the ceremonies to mark VE-Day on May 8. Decisions on this had been set aside in light of the President's uncertain health.

Three other issues involve the strategies of the ruling party. First comes the convening of the 27th Party Congress, due by March next year at the latest. But it is known that key members of the Politburo, not least Mr Gorbachev, have been pushing for an acceleration of the timetable with the rapid changes of leadership since the death of Mr Brezhnev.

The best guess now is that the congress will be summoned into session towards the end of this year.

This means that the party's central committee is likely to be called together in Moscow to prepare the way for the congress and to hear a keynote speech from the new General Secretary.

He may well indicate the other two issues requiring attention: the revision of the party statutes, and the preparation of a new party programme to replace the 1961 model which is out of date.

The seventh issue, and the one which will bear the personal stamp of the new leader more than the others, is the straightforward task of bringing the Soviet Politburo up to full strength.

It is now down to 10 members, the lowest number since the death of the Khrushchev era in 1964, and a figure previously reached after the death of Stalin in 1953.

The President had his first thorough check-up since May, 1984, last week, but the publication of the doctors' report on the day when his slightly junior Soviet opposite number, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, had finally succumbed at 73, inevitably made it front page news.

Mr Reagan had a similar polyp removed last year and his medical team stressed that the new one had shown no clinical evidence of being malignant. The blood traces in his stool, as every American knows, are one of the warning signs

China to
seek better
relations

From Mary-Louise O'Callaghan in Peking

PROSPECTS for improvements in Sino-Soviet relations appear good with the election of Mr Gorbachev.

President Chernenko's death, as "an outstanding leader of the Soviet party and state was given prominent coverage in the official Chinese press yesterday, including a photograph of Mr Chernenko on the front page of the People's Daily — a privilege not extended to the funeral of the last two Soviet leaders, Yuri Andropov and Leonid Brezhnev, on their deaths.

The Chinese President, Mr Li Xiangnan, and the head of the Chinese parliament, the National People's Congress, Mr Peng Zhen, also sent messages of condolences. Mr Peng visited the Soviet embassy in Peking to sign the condolences book.

Mr Peng, accompanied by the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Zhaoguan, told the Soviet ambassador to Peking that China was looking forward to an improvement in Sino-Soviet relations.

The Vice Premier, Mr Li Peng, left for Moscow as the official representative for the funeral of Mr Li, a Russian speaker, is of the same rank as Mr Wan Li who attended Mr Andropov's funeral.

The first clue about how much of an improvement can be expected as a result of the leadership change will be whether Mr Li is granted a meeting with Mr Gorbachev after attending the funeral today.

Last year, President Chernenko chose to snub Mr Wan Li while meeting other representatives of foreign countries who attended Mr Andropov's funeral.

Ahead stood the news kiosk dominated by the new leader, a symbol of the new generation that has taken power in the Kremlin.

Jackson freed
after anti-SA
demonstration

From our Correspondent in Washington

The Rev Jesse Jackson's emergence from a night in jail yesterday is the latest in a series of events outside the South African embassy here which have helped anti-apartheid campaigners create considerable momentum for legislative sanctions against the Pretoria regime.

The former candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination and his two sons, Jonathan and Jesse, were arrested on Monday for demonstrating within 500 feet of the building in Massachusetts Avenue, and their daughter, Santa, have already been arrested as have bishops, entertainers, sportsmen — including Arthur Ashe — and many others since the South Africa Movement began the protest on November 21.

Since the Justice Department has shown a marked reluctance to prosecute such offences and a trial in similar circumstances in Boston was recently abandoned, the campaign has been accused of making an easy gesture. But their efforts have caught a mood of public concern about apartheid in the US which has coincided with the deteriorating situation in South Africa.

Large firms are openly questioning the ethics and the long-term viability of their South African investments.

Harvard University has followed Stanford and 14 cities since 1980 to divest itself of shares in a company with important South African interests.

The so-called Sullivan principles, which pledge big firms to work for equal pay and better conditions for black South African employees, have been tightened to commit them to directly against apartheid.

Potentially more important, bills have been introduced in Congress which will probably

result in mandatory action, liberal Democrats led by Senators Edward Kennedy and William Proxmire, supported by the Republican Mr Lowell Weicker (who has also been arrested as have some of his children), are pushing a measure which would bar investment and loans, ban the sale of Kruggerands here, and the sale of US computers to South Africa. A similar measure exists in the House.

The Republicans are anxious not to be seen as the apartheid party when so many US blacks vote Democrat and many are uneasy with Mr Reagan's denunciations of the apartheid coupled with a policy of "constructive engagement" to reform it — especially when the policy has little to show for it. A group of 35 Conservative Republicans, for whom apartheid is an affront to the free market, threatened to support sanctions recently if Pretoria did not end the violence and show a sense of urgency about ending apartheid.

The South African embassy regards the outburst as part of the US domestic "political chess game" but top Senate Republicans are thought to be moving towards a compromise bill which would make compulsory rules of conduct for US firms in South Africa. At present full-scale divestment is not on the legislative agenda.

Before his arrest, Mr Jackson had been threatening US firms with a boycott — or "selective patronage" — saying: "They're not our business." The US and other civilised countries or with South Africa." He singled out the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, accusing it of supplying parts for arms. Unable to see the ambassador, he joined the singing of "We Shall Overcome" at the embassy steps and was duly booked. Countrywide arrests have now passed 2,000.

Reagan is ordered
on to 'cancer'
diet after check-up

From Our Own Correspondent in Washington

President Reagan will be placed on a "cancer" diet — recommended by the American Cancer Society pending another round of medical tests after the discovery of an "inflammatory fibroid polyp" in his lower intestine.

But the President remains in excellent general health for a man of 74 and, indeed, for a somewhat younger, his doctors emphasised yesterday.

"His overall physical and mental condition is excellent. I am especially impressed by the fact that his blood pressure is lower than a year ago. This is quite remarkable." A senior examining doctor at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Washington was quoted as saying.

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Mr Reagan had a similar polyp removed last year and his medical team stressed that the new one had shown no clinical evidence of being malignant. The blood traces in his stool, as every American knows, are one of the warning signs

for cancer. But though they are doing further tests to see what has caused the bleeding — possibly it is dietary — the doctors were soothing on the diet "recommendation" now, however, present when the press was briefed.

The coincidence of medical news from the Kremlin and White House underlines the familiar contrast in operating styles. American presidents are examined by the New York Times yesterday that the polyp was detected by an examination in which a flexible tube was inserted about one-third of the way into the President's colon to look for signs of disease.

The new growth, found in the last year, was about one-sixth of an inch in diameter.

While Moscow is decidedly more reticent about the health of its living leadership, Americans are also told that their President's blood pressure is down to 130 over 74, that his pulse in repose is 57, and that his cholesterol level has fallen from 219 to 102 in a year, possibly because of a changed diet.

Most tests produced results "well within normal range" or "changed from previous exams."

Mr Reagan who was 74 on February 6 is the oldest man to be president, but continues to project a healthy outgoing image. He rides and is occasionally photographed strapping

are one of the warning signs

EEC ministers fight
to save aid deal

From Derek Brown in Brussels

Farm Ministers of the EEC were last night fighting to salvage a deal on farm assistance, from the verbal wreckage of two days of talks.

The 10 Agriculture Ministers were due to refine an outline agreement by Finance Ministers on May 1 for a \$2.15 billion package of structural aid, to be spent over five years.

The money subsidises farm improvements and some conservation measures and the last five years package was worth some \$2.3 billion.

The Finance Ministers stipulated that the new deal should not prejudice negotiations towards a separate programme of aid for poorer Mediterranean regions.

But Greece, supported by Italy, is pressing hard for more Mediterranean aid in the latest proposals. The commission has originally suggested \$3.54 billion for the structures programme, and the Italian community presidency chipped in a compromise proposal for \$3.42 billion.

The Council of Farm Ministers spent most of yesterday trying in vain to plug the \$400 million negotiating gap. Last night they seemed to be heading for the kind of all-night wrangle for which EEC farm talks are notorious.

The same Ministers are already on collision course over a much bigger element of the Common Agricultural Policy, the £12 billion package of guaranteed prices and other subsidies which the commission has promised for 1985-86.

The German Minister, Mr

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Sikh leaders released in peace initiative

Gandhi appoints new governor to troubled Punjab

From Ajoy Bose in New Delhi

A top ranking politician of India's ruling Congress Party, Mr Arjun Singh, was appointed yesterday as the governor of the troubled north Indian state of Punjab.

The appointment is seen here as a part of the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's new initiative to settle the Punjab problem, on Monday. The Government had announced the release of eight prominent Sikh leaders who were arrested last June after the army operation in the holy Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar.

The choice of the new governor, however, has come as a major surprise, as Mr Singh, who has been Chief Minister of the west Indian state of Madhya Pradesh for the past five years, has little knowledge of the Punjab, in fact, the Congress leader had just been elected to a new term as Chief Minister after successfully contesting assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh.

Mr Singh said here yesterday that he had little inkling of his new assignment and admitted that he knew next to nothing about the Punjab. According to Mr Singh, he had come to Delhi to consult central party leaders about forming his state Cabinet when he was asked by Mr Gandhi to go to Punjab as governor.

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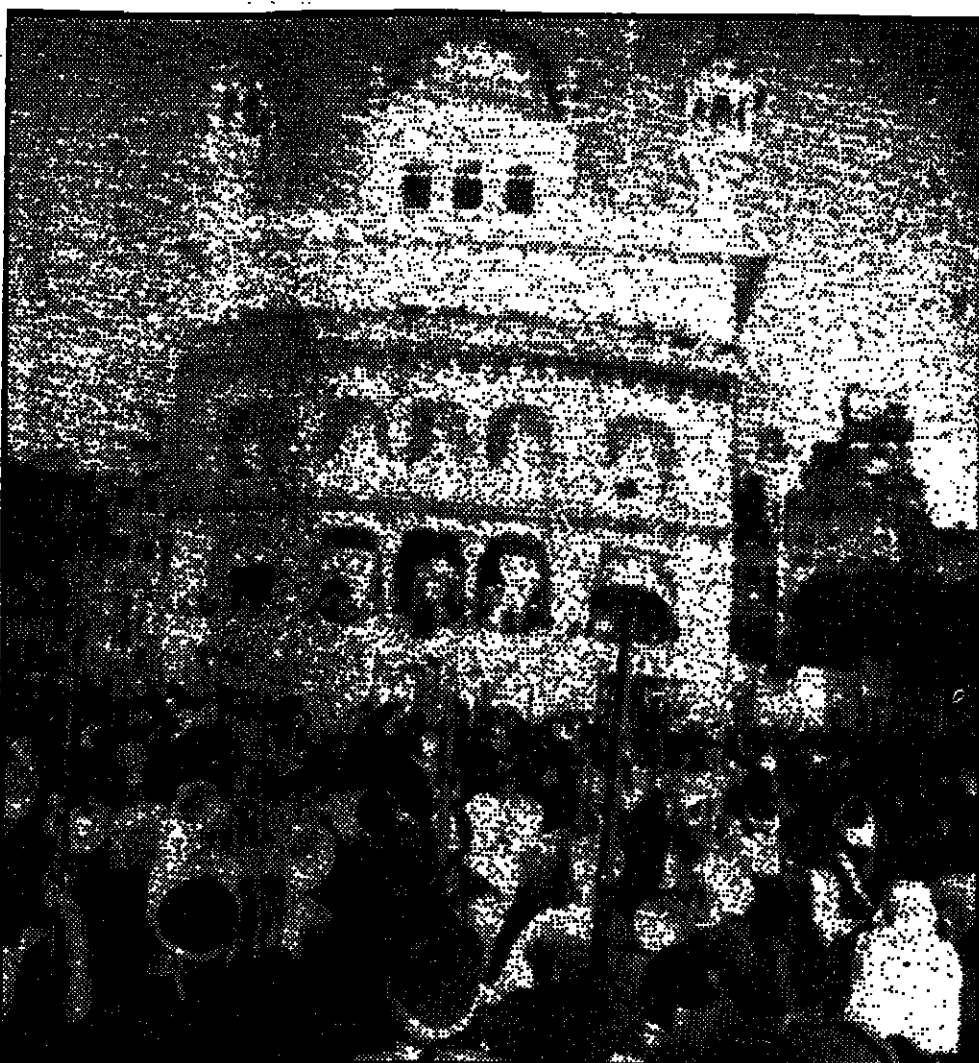
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Unrest in Amritsar: Sikhs gather outside the Golden Temple as it is handed back to the priests by the Army last September

Tanaka's illness puts pressure on Nakasone

From Robert Whyment in Tokyo

Whether the prime minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, can survive the illness of his benefactor, Mr Kakuei Tanaka, is the question that preoccupies ruling and opposition party politicians this week as serious doubts persist about the former prime minister's chances of a complete recovery from a cerebral infarction.

The illness, striking Japan's most powerful politician just as he was fighting off a challenge from mutinous retainers in his own camp, is a matter of more than passing interest in Washington as well.

Mr Nakasone, in two-and-a-half years office, has proved the most compliant of recent prime ministers in building up Japan's military power under Washington's prodding.

Mr Tanaka's control over the faction — which has 119 Members of Parliament or more than the main opposition party — is threatened from within.

The Finance Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, one of Mr Tanaka's closest associates in the faction, launched the "soseikai", nominally a study group but transparently a vehicle for Mr Takeshita's own leadership ambitions — and stirred the resentment of other powerful figures like the ruling party secretary general, Mr Shin Kanemaru, who have turned against the alliance of their boss with Mr Nakasone.

Clearly if the Tanaka faction tears itself apart, the props under Mr Nakasone collapse.

Mr Tanaka, of course, has read his political obituary before. The uneducated farmer's boy who became Prime Minister in 1972 was forced out of office amid allegations of financial irregularities and in 1976 was arrested on charges of accepting bribes by Lockheed. But these disgraces only spurred Mr Tanaka to build up his muscle inside the ruling party.

Ironically, it is not the opposition parties, nor the rival factions in the ruling party opposed to the Tanaka-Nakasone alliance, who have struck at the heart of the formidable Tanaka machine. It is what loyal followers of the political boss refer to as the "traitors" — the 40 men who joined the "soseikai" with Mr Takeshita.

The loyalists speak bitterly of the shock Mr Tanaka suffered when he learned of the intrigues by Takeshita — whom Mr Tanaka is said to have regarded as his son.

It is clear that personal ambitions for power, rather than altruistic desires for reform inspired the plotters to make their moves.

104 die in war on crime

Peking: Chinese leaders have revealed that police are suffering heavy casualties in China's war on crime and have warned against police torture, corruption and abuse of power, the New China News Agency has reported.

At least 104 policemen were killed and 1,022 injured during the campaign over the last 18 months, the Public Security Vice-Minister, Mr Hu Zhiguan, said yesterday.

The Public Security Minister, Mr Liu Fuzhi praised the police efforts, but urged them to reject the use of their powers for their own interest and to respect and enforce the law.

"He called for a firm stand against torture, abuse, bribery, embezzlement, and fraud, and for nationwide specialised training to improve competence," the news agency reported Mr Liu as saying.

"He recommended meticulous investigation with no prejudging of issues and said the police should never be afraid of admitting and correcting mistakes," the agency said.

The agency gave no breakdown of causes for police casualties during the campaign.

However, in a notorious case in 1983, the robber brothers Wang Zongwei and Wang Zongfang killed at least five policemen during a desperate pursuit across China before being shot by police.

Knowing that the penalty for many serious crimes will almost inevitably be death, Chinese criminals sometimes try to shoot their way out of trouble rather than surrender.

Foreign jurists estimate that China has shot more than 10,000 criminals for crimes ranging from murder, rape, and fraud to hooliganism.

Chinese officials do not release totals for executions in the campaign, which they say has brought crime down to the level before Mao Tse-tung's chaotic 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Russians plan offensive

ISLAMABAD: Fresh Soviet troops have landed by helicopter in Afghanistan's strategic Panjshir valley, north of Kabul, for a possible spring offensive against guerrillas.

Western diplomats here said yesterday that the strength of the Soviet force was no known but the landings took place early this month in the Anjuman side-valley in northern Panjshir.

A Panjshir guerrilla commander, Ahmad Shah Masoud, was reported to have appealed to Panjshiri men living in Kabul to return to prepare for possible spring battles against the Soviet troops.

The diplomats said that both sides appeared to be consolidating their positions in the valley, which Soviet troops overran in a big offensive last April.

Soviet command units had recently attacked guerrilla hideouts in the lower part of the 60-mile-long valley and there had also been fighting in the adjoining Andarab valley, they said.

Travellers had reported heavy air bombardment in the upper parts of the valley early this month, the diplomats said. Guerrillas had made two rocket attacks against the Afghan defence ministry in Kabul early this month.

The first attack was on March 2, and ambulances were seen rushing to the area indicating there were casualties. Several more rockets landed near the ministry on March 7, followed by sporadic machine-gun fire, but there was no report of any casualties.

The diplomats said that the rebels carried out an attack before dawn on Friday on Kabul's Balkhissar fortress, where many Soviet troops were reported to be stationed. — Reuters.

Vietnamese driven out, Thais claim

Surin, Thailand: The Thai army claimed yesterday to have driven out some of more than 3,000 Vietnamese soldiers who crossed into Thailand from Kampuchea. A hard fight to expel the rest was expected.

Vietnamese and Thai forces clashed early yesterday on hills in north-east Thailand opposite the Kampuchean guerrilla base of Green Hill, captured by Hanoi's troops on Monday, Thai soldiers said.

But by mid-morning few sounds of battle were heard.

The Chinese President, Mr Li Xiaonan, yesterday pledged continued support for the guerrilla Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea despite its military setbacks.

A foreign ministry spokesman said that Mr Li made the statement during a 30-minute meeting in Bangkok with the Thai Prime Minister, Mr Prem Tinsulanonda. — Reuters.

Thai officers kept journalists seven miles away from the embattled border area.

Sihanoukian National Army guerrillas abandoned Green Hill — also known as Tatum Hill — after holding out for a week against Vietnamese artillery barrages and infantry attacks.

Many of them gathered yesterday at a Buddhist temple here to pay respects to General King Men, the commander of Green Hill, who was killed on Friday.

With the capture of Green Hill, the Vietnamese seized the last big border base left to the guerrilla Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Vietnam, which invaded Kampuchea in 1978, is believed to have 180,000 to 180,000 troops there backing the Government in Phnom Penh.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, son of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said that the guerrillas abandoned Green Hill with few losses in the face of "human wave" assaults.

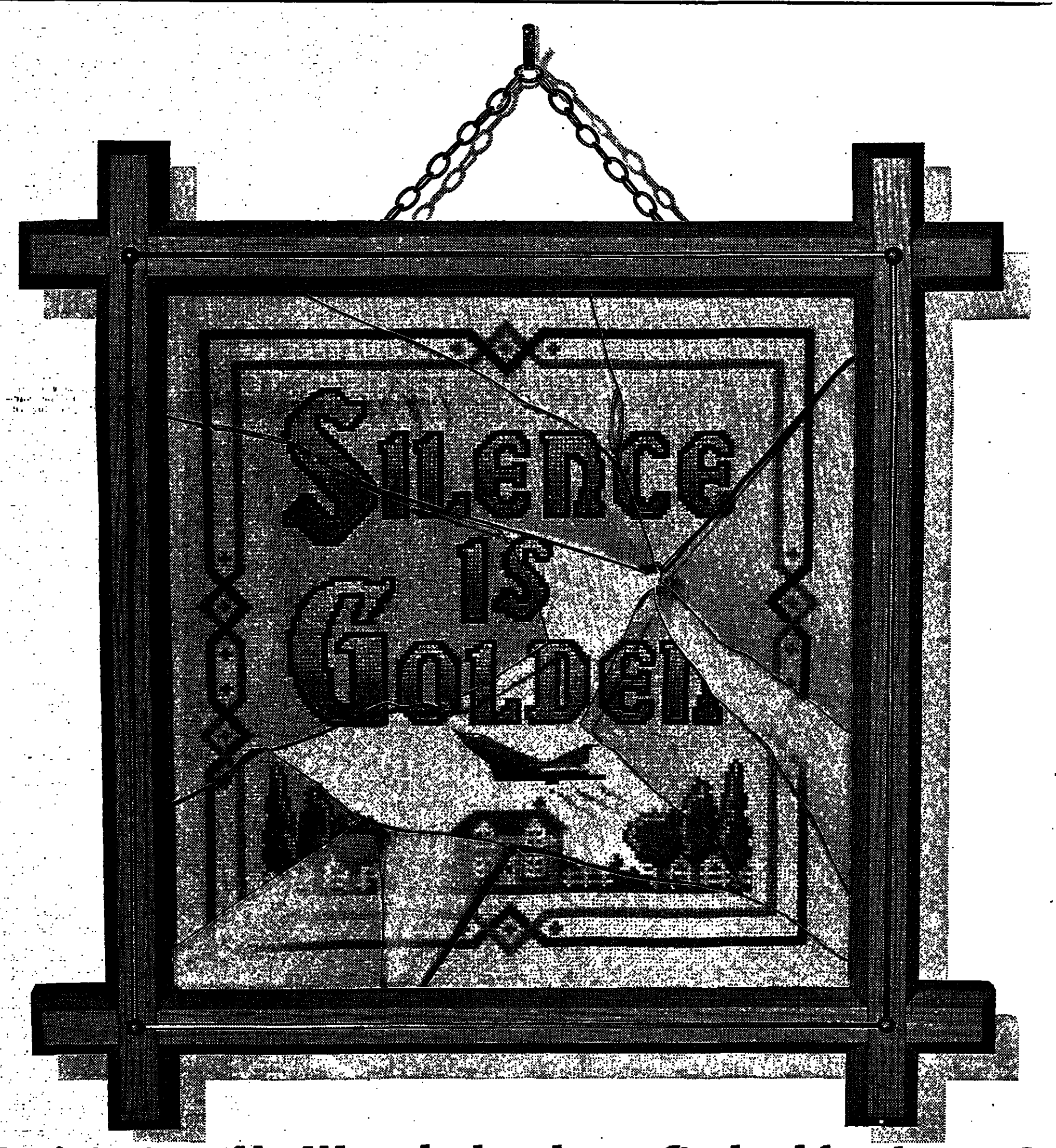
He said that the ANS would take the war to the Vietnamese in the interior of Kampuchea and the Vietnamese will not be able to stop us.

In Bangkok, an army spokesman, Narondol Dechpradhyuth, said that Vietnamese troops were fighting for control of a hill near the border with Thailand. Several ANS units were still active near the fallen mountain headquarters area, he added.

In Singapore, Australian officials said yesterday that Vietnam's Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thatch, had admitted that Vietnamese troops could have entered Thailand by mistake.

Australia's Foreign Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, said earlier that he had received a reply from Hanoi to his condemnation of Vietnamese incursions into Thailand.

Kampuchea. He declined to disclose details of the message. — Reuters.



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Eugene Ormandy

Edward Greenfield
pays tribute to
Eugene Ormandy

True to Philly

NO GREAT conductor in recent musical history has remained so loyal to one orchestra as Eugene Ormandy, who died yesterday at the age of 84. He went to the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1936, sharing the post of principal conductor with Leopold Stokowski, but established his record as musical director from 1938, notching up more than 40 years.

Even after he had handed over his post to Riccardo Muti, his first loyalty was to Philadelphia. Over all those years he rarely appeared as a guest conductor with any other orchestra, preferring instead to work on what was always recognised as the Philadelphia sound, or maybe the Ormandy sound.

Born Jeno Blau in Budapest in 1899, Ormandy became a child prodigy on the violin. It was only when he went to New York in 1921 and found his agent had failed to organise the promised concert tour for him as a violinist that he turned to conducting instead.

With no money at all he promptly took a job in a cinema orchestra, quickly graduating to the conductor's stand, first in the cinema, later in broadcast concerts. After deputising for Toscanini at a Philadelphia concert he was chosen as principal conductor of the Minneapolis Orchestra. Over five seasons there he built up a formidable reputation as a recording conductor, making pioneering recordings of such works as Mahler's Second Symphony and Rachmaninov's Second.

As a conductor Ormandy's great gift was his ability to balance sound so accurately, particularly in the string section. When in 1968 he came to London to record Dvorak's Ninth, he was struck by the orchestra's usual sound in to something not quite Philadelphia but much warmer and sweeter than usual.

His readings of the 19th century symphonic repertoire were always warm but rarely exaggerated or vulgar, as records demonstrate. He preferred opulent textures to sharply analytical ones, and his reluctance to venture into the 18th century repertoire, of Mozart and Haydn, reflected that.

Concerts were different, and there he could be a most sympathetic accompanist in Mozart. It is a mark of Ormandy's integrity, his reluctance to record idiosyncratic views on a work, that he was so understanding a concerto accompanist, aiming above all to support his soloist. Dozens of recordings made over nearly 50 years with many of the world's greatest virtuosi — from Rachmaninov, Heifetz and Feuermann to John Williams — demonstrate that.

The prefab is here to stay

Martin Pawley welcomes the return of a form of building that has fallen into disfavour

IT WAS the American critic Peter Blake who made the memorable observation that one could no more think of modern architecture without prefabrication than Christianity without the cross. What he had in mind was the kind of dedication that made the pioneer modernist Le Corbusier cry, "Je ferais des maisons comme on fait des voitures," an idea that was neither unusual nor reprehensible in the first half of this century.

Under the impact of two world wars and the massive deindustrialisation they entailed, the principal goals of architecture became social and political: to produce millions of new houses on a production line; to build new towns and cities, schools and hospitals; in fact to build what the French architect Yona Friedman called in 1966, "a new, organised surface of the earth."

Such ambitions are no longer popular; indeed they are regarded as pathological and dangerous, the kind of thinking that got us into the mess we are in today. Any architect who talks about large-scale housing is a cultural barbarian, a brute who does not recognise that the private dwelling is a

shibboleth of individual identity. Besides, if we started turning out dwellings like Honda Pick-up trucks, what would happen to the value of the burghomasters that we amortise by the videos and microwaves that we really need?

The housebuilding industry was one of the most implacable opponents of the post-war prefabrication programme, that (briefly) turned out aluminium houses at a rate of one every 12 minutes. Today, if houses ceased to be collateral for consumption and became durable themselves, the whole mystique of the housing market, the mortgage queue, the solicitor, the building society, would all vanish into the dustbin of history.

Better by far that spot-welding, cold-rolling, injection moulding and continuous extrusion should be confined to the production of motor vehicles, racing yachts, drainpipes and fake stone, and that the prefabrication of houses should be confined to the production of light industrial sheds unless and until in the ironic words of Sir Denis Lasdun, we really do want to build a

Palladian air terminal — when of course the most up-to-date methods would be employed at once.

There have always been two different approaches to prefabrication: heavy and light. By and large heavy prefabrication was a concrete technology, developed originally through shortages of other strategic materials and brought to its most efficient level of production in Eastern Europe after 1945.

In the 1950s, when half the new houses built in Europe were being put up in the Soviet Union, the Eastern bloc countries developed heavy prefabrication systems that were exported or copied all over the world. System building machinery was sent to Cuba and Egypt, and from there found its way to places as remote as Chile or Manchuria.

Distant cousins of those systems were adopted and modified in England, with the dismal results still unfolding at Roman Point and a hundred thousand Bison flats. In Britain by the mid-1970s, these methods were largely discredited. The National Building Agency, a quango set up in the Sixties, to vet prefabrication systems

for local authorities, began to fade from the scene. In 1982, with massive liability claims darkening the horizon, it was quietly wound up. That was the end of heavy prefabrication in Britain.

The other kind of prefabrication, using light alloys, steel and timber, suffered guilt by association. When the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, representing 75 urban administrations, began publishing reports on defects in housing, the £5 billion in repair costs assigned to a million post-war system-built dwellings and the £5 billion assigned to 500,000 non-traditional houses spilled over into the private housing market, where one form of prefabrication, timber frame, had made headway even as the public sector system programmes went down.

Many of the difficulties experienced by Barratts, the highest profile timber frame builder, can be traced back to this ignorant misidentification. To this day prefabricated timber frame houses in Britain are invariably clad in brick — a sop to the prejudice of those who lend money. And this although the AMA has now estimated

that defects in 450,000 traditionally built council houses will cost £9 billion to repair.

But suddenly there are signs that prefabrication is making a comeback from another area altogether. Now, once again architects are in charge. The new field is industrial and office building, whose roots can be traced back to the tiny and ubiquitous Portakabin, and the long-forgotten Terrapin portable bungalow, both products of the prefabrication boom of the post-war years.

Reg Stallard, chief architect at Portakabin until he retired last year, masterminded the steady development of transportable buildings from the Little Pk16 site plot of 1980 to the present generation of sectional York office buildings. He explains the new commercial success of prefabrication succinctly: "They don't have time for permanent buildings so they buy or lease instant. When the economy turns down, they can't afford permanent buildings so they take instant accommodation again."

Nick Whitehouse, chief architect at Terrapin, based in Milton Keynes, has taken the

process even further. Working with RDP consultants, he has developed a revolutionary cold-rolled steel frame industrial building system called Matrex.

The Matrex demountable building system is undergoing continuous development, with window designs developed from leak-proof boat-building practice and walls adapted from huge, highly insulated glass and sandwich panels originally designed for refrigerated articulated lorries. Two years ago the two central sections of a Matrex building at Milton Keynes were unbolted and transported to the Hendon air museum and the two end sections reconnected to make a smaller building. Matrex buildings can be purchased, leased or chartered like ships or aeroplanes for a contract period.

Perhaps the most impressive of the new generation of prefabricated buildings is the latest, an extremely elegant enamelled steel clad frame system called Tartan developed by the architect Roger Perrin, a Cambridge and Harvard graduate who has worked with the highest London architect Nick Grimshaw.

Perrin's system uses interchangeable steel and glass panels finely detailed to a rectangular frame system. A refined product just like a motor car or a computer, as he puts it.

The first Tartan building completed, at the Midland Bank, which was erected in Bury St Edmunds in 12 weeks and occupied in October, 1984. The company claims to have taken £2 million in orders already, including exports to Germany and Japan. A second, two-storey truck rental headquarters is nearing completion.

Perrin's structures are intended to be permanent but they exploit the speed and lightness of construction and rapid economic response time that prefabrication has historically promised.

Unlike refurbished traditional buildings, the new generation of light system structures are designed to absorb complex electronic and servicing equipment, including air conditioning, within a tough, low maintenance shell. Unfortunately it will require a revolution in outlook before such thinking penetrates the housing market again.

TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

Maelstrom

MAELSTROM (BBC-1), by Michael J. Bird, is in a direct line of pretty precipitous descent from Jane Eyre through Rebecca: the old sins, the long shadows, the mad laughter in the attic and, of course, quick, call the fire brigade, the west wings in flames.

"All the profundity of Rebecca," said Scott Fitzgerald once, "is some such compulsive rubbish." It is one of those disturbing ironies which make you feel something nasty is listening that his own wife died in the classic cliché of Gothic romance, raving in a burning house.

I would not want this to get around but I have been following Maelstrom surreptitiously behind locked doors claiming defensively, when challenged, to be watching blue movies. The penultimate episode the heroine opened the padded cell in the haunted house and leaped back like a startled fawn or, this being Norway, a startled elk. Who could resist it? I could not. But BBC is false heard to find out what she saw.

TV criticism is usually a solitary affair, so I was surprised to find that on this occasion quite a little crowd collected, a man who came to adjust the set, a chap who brought the heating a bit, and a girl with an envelope marked Urgent. At last the man who came to adjust the set said with intolerable smugness, "I always knew she was the nuttier." We glared at him savagely. "Was," he said, "so unobvious," and with a last nonchalant twiddle of a knob, departed. And, of course, now he comes to mention it, she was.

The heroine of Maelstrom, Tussie Silberg, has one of those wonderful Swedish faces, all nerves and eyeballs and nostrils, which remind you of a rocking horse or a figurehead of one of those Viking ships which used to put the wind up the Anglos and Saxons and occasional warring Norse disposition. I watched Tussie for hours waiting for her to start acting and felt no moment of that time wasted.



Ann Miles, Miranda Jacquarollo, Joanne Phillips Lane and Primula Cotton at Stratford East. Picture by Douglas Jeffery

Maelstrom was entirely uncluttered by acting or writing or anything surplus to the overriding need to know "Who is that cackling in the attic?" In the last episode everyone stood around discussing the plot. "She is not Jordahl's bastard, she is Freya's child... one night she tried to kill him with an axe... I can't carry the burden any more, I killed her!"

In the background poor old Tussie ("Help! Help!") was being banged on the head with a large log and incinerated by the unobvious nutter. Norwegians are well known for setting fire to things on the slightest incentive. It beguiles the otherwise long and monotonous writers and, because these things can become a bad habit, they do it in midsummer too.

In spite of the aroma of roasting Tussie, one of her sisters sat down in front of the fire and patiently explained the plot to the other: "She's Freya's child before she married Jordahl. You are not Freya, you are Anna Marie. Freya was your mother and her mother too."

Fortunately for Tussie she was rescued by one of those journalists who luckily never seem to have any work to do. "It's not easy for her," the under-employed journalist, "discover-

ing that her mother died insane and that insanity was passed on to her half-sister." True but the kindly old country doctor is quick with fatherly reassurance. "There is no conclusive evidence of direct biological transmission of mental disturbance."

And so they sailed off into the sunset or what would have been the sunset but for the peculiar lighting arrangements they have in Scandinavia. It was a deeply cleansing experience and left you feeling better, purer and somewhat spin-dried person.

JEANNETTA

COCHRANE

Edward Greenfield

Much Ado

About

Nothing

NOWADAYS a shadowy figure, remembered more for his rescue of the opera than for his own music, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford swam against the Victorian tide to produce no fewer than ten operas. Opera Viva is this week

presenting the seventh of them, first seen at Covent Garden in 1901, a conscientious adaptation of Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing full of good ideas that never quite add up.

Unlike Beatrix, whose partial and idiosyncratic view of Shakespeare's comedy, Stanford with his librettist, Julian Sturgis, attempted to encapsulate the whole thing, sub-plots and all, leaving out Act I and starting later with the masked ball at Leonato's house. The odd thing is how much less Shakespearean Stanford proves to be than Berlioz with all his quirky distortions.

Particularly in an updated setting, Edwardian with the gentlemen in tails or frock coats against a handsome metal-framed set complete with over-hearing gallery — the improbabilities of the plot, had enough in the original, become totally absurd. With preparatory dialogue so reduced motivation is practically eliminated, with even the sharpness of Beatrix and Benedick made flabby and pointless.

Musically much of the writing is skilful, with a setting of Sign No More, ladies used as choral overture, and chattering ideas over oompah basses that nicely translate Merrie England up-market. But neither the comedy nor

the emotional heightening that opera should always aim at in such adaptations begins to come across.

Visually the Opera Viva production is delightful, designed by Henrietta Rohrer and Sarah Wentworth Stanley, all Lloyd loom and potted palms against wrought-iron curlicues, but the performance, with Leslie Head conducting the Opera Viva Orchestra in scratchy form, hardly does justice even to what Stanford did achieve.

Young singers with powerful voices not yet fully under control are not ideal choices for music that cries out for delicate, pointed treatment. Brigitta Angmyr was the most effective as Hero, not only powerful but war-torn with words commendably clear. Patricia Cameron's words disappeared almost entirely as Beatrix. Rodney Gibson as Benedick coped far better, treating it rather as a development of one of the Grossmith roles in G and S.

The comic officers — limited to Act 4 — were less of a pain than expected, with Greg Winter producing foghorn tones as Dogberry (dressed as an Edwardian bobby) against a mute Verger and a Sexton (Seacole) who in Jeremy Penfold came over better than anyone.

STRATFORD EAST

Michael Billington

Taming Of

The Shrew

ULTZ's production of The Taming of the Shrew is bizarre without being especially illuminating. It employs an all-female, 12-strong cast to highlight the element of chauvinist cruelty that is strikingly evident in any conventional version. So zealously stripping the play of anything resembling humour, it also undercuts the ambivalence of a work that is both ethically disgusting and farcically ingenious.

What Uitz gives us instead is a study in role-playing decked out with a good deal of scenic extravagance. The cast assemble in rehearsal clothes and then for the most part don white make-up and pencilled-in beards to denote masculinity: the obvious exceptions are Kate and Bianca whose character contrast is indicated by an aerosol-can spraying them with outline images of, respectively, a devil and a saint. In case we miss the point about the play's moral attitudes, Petruchio (a

jaunty Fiona Victory) gazes lovingly at himself in a tilted mirror. Lucendo (Johanna Kirby) is transfixed by a nude painting of an idealised Bianca and the money-loving Baptista (Jean Boht) steps in and out of a static costume betokening befuddled grandeur.

The problem with the production is that it denies Shakespeare any element of redeeming humour and it piles one eccentricity on top of another: the constant reduction of the verse to a monotonous, metronomic beat explains nothing. This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

BRISTOL

David Foot

Guys

And Dolls

SOME of the Guys and Dolls are different but the National Theatre's famous production is back on the road, opening this week at Bristol Hippodrome and reaching London again in June.

Surprisingly, because of several as yet uneasy performances, the raucous gang game ambience takes some time to become established: the rollicking sleazy mood is a few detectable degrees removed from authentic Runyon territory.

But it remains a superb, strident show with a love story that is never allowed to get too submerged in sentimentality. Sarah — once more played with endearing humanity by Betsy Brantley — finds her fettered emotions straying beyond the mission. Clara (Joanna Kirby) has all the Shrew Masteron has all the presence of emerging stardom. The presence is strong and warm; the voice is good. This is, in many ways, his show.

Lulu's arrival as Miss Adelaide is a triumph of varying disciplines, innate bubbly fun and genuine potential for the direction of the Big Musical which doubtless beckons her. There are the peaks in this mighty show: the vibrantly misanthropic underground gambling scene and of course Nicely-Nicely (David Healy) with Rockin' the Boat.

The chorus work is a joy but Norman Rossington's Nathan Detroit is not there yet.

On Ins we Am Gu: You Ap: A wi: af: G: co: d: H to

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and the
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Starlit requiem

IMAGINE that Carl Orff had rewritten the Verdi Requiem with a little help from Leonard Bernstein, and you will get a fair idea of the latest, much-publicised work of Andrew Lloyd-Webber, his Requiem, now within days of its New York premiere. It is treated to an opulent recording (HMV EL 27 0242 1).

The star names are the same: Lorna Mazzoli conducting the Pacifica Domingo tenor soloist and with Sarah Brightman (Mrs Lloyd-Webber) as the soprano. Whatever the excess of publicity no one could doubt the warmth and commitment of the performance, recorded just before Christmas with Winchester Cathedral Choir and the English Chamber Orchestra.

Now is there any doubt of purpose. Derivative he may be at every turn, but his power to communicate is as clear as his musicals. He may be short-winded in argument, and some of the themes are too facile, but his gift of memorability has not deserted him, and one number at least has a felicity that gets the best of every world, flattening every musical barrier, pop, classical or whatever.

What one has clearly to infer is that Miss Brightman, far from being brought in by the back door, has been the very source of inspiration behind this and much else. Not surprisingly a "single" has been brought out, featuring that Pie Jesu with another of Miss Brightman's solos. Recordars, a much more angular, less pop-oriented melody, which recurs as a motif.

There is also a 12-inch "maxi-single" containing in addition a jolly setting of Hosanna, which after a serious clearing-of-throat development into syncopated number for choir and tenor soloist, the closest Lloyd-Webber lets himself get to the world of Jesus Christ Superstar. Otherwise the Orffian and Veridian echoes are the ones which set the tone of voice in the Dies Irae and other numbers.

After so massive a hype and so starladen a launch it is hard to predict just where Lloyd-Webber's Requiem will stand in the repertoire, but I should not be surprised to find it becoming a latter-day equivalent to Starlit Requiem. The Requiem is a collection of 17 encores songs, starting with Tosti's Serenade, in effect a Victorian ballad that with the ethereal tones of Ameling is totally translated. The rest ranges widely and

Edward Greenfield on the new Lloyd-Webber work

often unexpectedly through songs of six nationalities (even Japanese) mostly sweet and gentle but with Satie's evocation of the musical hall. La diva de l'Empire, adding a touch of humour.

Then, in the heart of a record coupling two totally inconsequential ballet scores that beautifully capture the atmosphere of Paris in the 1920s. That was the period of Les Six with their seed-cataloguing japes, and Les Mariages de la Tour Eiffel (The Wedding on the Eiffel Tower) illustrates a scenario of Jean Cocteau with pieces by five of the six. Poulenc and Germaine Tailleferre prove notably more skilled than their colleagues, Auric, Milhaud and Honegger, at conveying sparkle and irony.

Poulenc and Milhaud are contributors too to the other, even more surprising ballet score, L'Avant de Jeanne. Jeanne's Fan, a collaboration of no fewer than ten composers starting with Ravel. Ravel's Fanfare has occasionally been revived, the most pointed and original of the pieces, but Poulenc's haunting Pastourelle later found popularity in its piano version. Nothing else is quite so memorable, but with Geoffrey Simon drawing brilliant and expressive playing from the Philharmonia Orchestra the whole confection is delightful, particularly in superb digital sound (Chandos ARD 1119).

Concert dates

Weller/Berlin State Symphony Orchestra, Festival

Hall tonight 7.30. This orchestra from east of the Wall has to live down comparison with the Berlin Philharmonic. Here with Walter Weller they offer symphonies by Mozart (no. 38, Prague) and Mahler (no. 5).

Meriel and Peter Dickinson, Parcell Room, tomorrow 7.30. Brother and sister team with a distinctive style of recital. This is a portrait of Stevie Smith with settings of her poems by Elisabeth Lutyens and Gordon Ross as well as Dickinson herself, plus readings by Betty Mulcahy.

Brandis Quartet, Wigmore, tomorrow 7.30. Thomas Brandis, long-time concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic, is also leader of one of the finest quartets in Germany. They play Mendelssohn's E flat Quartet Op.44 no. 3 and Beethoven's A minor, Op.132.

Ensemble Quartet, Wigmore, Saturday 7.30. Assured and stylish young group that has been going for five years offers a Beethoven, Op. 131 in C sharp minor, Mozart's G major K.587 and Weber's Five Pieces Op.5.

Abbado/LSO/Accardo, Barbican tomorrow 7.45. Abbado inaugurates the LSO's Mahler 1985 project with a programme in which Mahler's First Symphony is introduced by Ligeti's Lontano and Berg's Violin Concerto with Accardo as soloist. Friday lunchtime (1 p.m.) brings the La Salle Quartet in a programme of Bach (arr. Mozart), Beethoven (Grosse Fuge) and Webern designed as counterpoint to Mahler.

TOMORROW at 7.00
then March 22, 26, 29 & April 3
final performances this season of Handel's

XERXES

"Charm, wit and sparkle... delightful extravaganzas" D. Telegraph

"The music... joyously triumphantly delivered" Guardian

"ENO's audacious Xerxes... a dreamworld by SF out of 'Draughtsman's Contract'" Times Out

"For style, spectacle and some of the best Handel singing and playing to be heard in London, Nicholas Hytner's illuminating and entertaining new production should not be missed" Times

"Revelatory... brilliant, entertaining, extraordinary production... David Fielding's ravishing designs" Guardian

"Another triumph for the ENO... superb cast" Sir Alan Murray, Valerie Maesterson, Jean Rigby, Lesley Garrett, Christopher Robson, Christopher Booth-Jones, Rodney Matcarr.

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Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (n = 10) and the experimental group (n = 10). The control group received a standard diet (SD) and the experimental group received a high-fat diet (HFD). The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (n = 10) and the experimental group (n = 10). The control group received a standard diet (SD) and the experimental group received a high-fat diet (HFD). The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group (n = 10) and the experimental group (n = 10). The control group received a standard diet (SD) and the experimental group received a high-fat diet (HFD).

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Tapdancing your way out of a jam

Yesterday afternoon's speech by the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, on telephone tapping and the security services positively groaned with reassurances. There was Lord Bridge's report to rely on. That had shown that all the authorised warrants since 1970 were authorised warrants. Thank you, Lord Bridge, for that. But there was more. Mr Brittan himself had found time in a busy schedule to carry out his own inquiries. He had looked to see if the security service had been tapping anyone without authorisation. And he has found that they had not. The net effect of these assurances is, therefore, that M15 and the Special Branch are in the clear as far as the Home Office is concerned. And yet what appears at first sight to be a watertight set of assurances is, on closer examination, distinctly unseaworthy. The inference from Mr Brittan's speech is that all the phone tapping carried out in this country by the security services is done under warrants and, in turn, that all the warrants are issued in accordance with the definitions which ministers have repeatedly endorsed over the past decade. That brings the argument back to the definition of subversion first published by the Callaghan government, namely of activities which "threaten the safety or well being of the state and which are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political industrial or violent means."

Put that definition together with the allegations in the 20/20 Vision Programme, M15's Official Secrets. There were told that Mr Brittan himself had authorised the tapping of the phone of Mr John Cox, a Communist Party member who is also the vice-president of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Yesterday, Mr Brittan again went out of his way to say that peaceful opposition to the Government's defence policies, i.e. being active in CND, is not a tappable offence. But he also said that membership of a campaign, or a trade union, could not confer an immunity from

tapping. Result, you can tap Mr Cox's phone because he is a member of the CP and, hey presto, you are plugged into the phone conversations of Monsignor Kent, Mrs Ruddock and the rest of them. And, as a result, you also swell what 20/20 Vision described as the "two thick files" on Mr Kent. Thus the assumptions about Communists are the key which unlocks the door to the files of CND. And not just of CND. Take also the example of the National Council of Civil Liberties. Its former general secretary, Ms Patricia Hewitt, lives with Mr Bill Birtles, who was a Communist for some years. Result, the Communist connection is used to justify the keeping of files on Ms Hewitt and, in all probability, to sanction the occasional phonetapping of the NCCL's headquarters.

All this is quite acceptable to most Conservative backbenchers. These MPs, who so often proclaim their devotion to individual freedom, have sat on their hands ever since the 20/20 Vision allegations were made. There are some exceptions, such as Mr Steven Norris, who deserves credit for their independence. Yet of those who dutifully went through the lobbies in support of Mr Brittan last night, all but a few treat the issue with indifference. The comments of Sir Anthony Kershaw, one of those anonymous influential senior Tory backbenchers who bob up in Westminster reports, are not unrepresentative: "If he is not watching these people, I want my money back." That also seems to be the approach of the Tories in the Home Affairs Select Committee. Their love of liberty is currently on display in the way they are stifling the committee's investigation of the Special Branch and seeking the production of a bromide report. There's nothing wrong, they all cry. Even if there were a few rule breakers, they whisper in clubland, M15 is so bureaucratic that nobody would be greatly harmed by the over-enthusiasm. If there was a problem we would get to hear of it. But that is just what has happened, isn't it? That is precisely why the 20/20 Vision programme is so important. The former M15 officers have made allegations which are not being denied and which remain the central issue in spite of all Mr Brittan's clever legal footwork. Nothing that Mr Brittan said yesterday, or that Lord Bridge said last week, has laid a glove on Ms Massiter's allegations. That's why Mr Roy Jenkins is right to thunder from the Chilterns. And that is

also why, away from the limelight, Mr Brittan is currently planning a private shake-up of the security services that, intrinsically, gives the lie to yesterday's bland reassurances.

To the victor, the boot?

There was, not to put too fine an interpretation upon it, a certain sense of triumphalism about the interview Mr Ian MacGregor of the National Coal Board gave to the Sunday Telegraph this week.

An air, one might say, of rejoice, rejoice and rejoice again, about the mood in which matters were analysed. "People," Mr MacGregor was quoted as saying, "are now discovering the price of insubordination and insurrection. And, boy, are we going to make it stick." Even as he spoke, letters were being sent out to the homes of all miners — working and otherwise. In those letters the same Mr MacGregor commented "This strike was not of management's choosing nor of our making. Now it is over, every effort must be made to restore harmony within the industry so that we can all resume our respective responsibilities to ourselves, our families, our communities and the industry that sustains us." Will the real Mr MacGregor please stand up?

The same schizophrenic style of management was on display throughout the miners' dispute. On the one hand Mr MacGregor was offering, almost six months ago, perfectly honourable terms of settlement to the miners. On the other, head inside paper bag, the chairman of the Coal Board was making acid cracks about everything from the mental health of Mr Arthur Scargill to the need for secret ballots. All of which proved a bit much for Mr Ned Smith, the board's experienced industrial relations chief, and Mr Geoff Kirk, the board's public relations boss. They both elected to take early retirement. They were the lucky ones. They had reached the top of their respective trees and they were on the verge of retirement anyway. They could, to put it crudely, afford to go. Their pensions were intact and so were their reputations. Beneath them, many hundreds of middle to senior area managers were trying to make the best of conflicting sig-

nals. Thus it is, today, that in many areas, the amnesty question is being quietly sorted out. In others, Scotland, for example, much the same end result is being arrived at with the maximum of aggro.

In the trough of the dispute, about the time Mr Michael Eaton emerged and Mr MacGregor started to play the (welcome) role of the invisible man, the word from Whitehall was that poor old Ian would see the dispute out — of course he would — but, shortly thereafter the lure of the Florida Keys would loom ever larger. Not so now. Mr MacGregor has 18 months of his contract to run and the powers that be are said to be determined to see him play it out. To the victor the spoils. At which point, turn again, to that conciliatory letter and to the assorted opinion polls which show a growing sympathy for the causes for which the miners said they were fighting, a deep distaste for the manner in which Mr MacGregor fought his corner and an unease about the casual way in which the Government handled its responsibilities.

Mr MacGregor, at well past normal retirement age in the pits or elsewhere, was paid a pretty penny to teach the miners a lesson. Now the coal industry must go on — as must the political life of the nation. It should go on in the spirit of the MacGregor letter and not the MacGregor interview. And that indicates that Mr MacGregor himself should go now. Heaped in honours, if that is the Government's will. But go he should, and the sooner the better.

Mr Mugabe can say: stop

In a letter we published yesterday two left-wing Labour MPs drew renewed attention to the imprisonment without charge or trial of eight Zimbabwean trade union activists. They concluded: "If the government of Zimbabwe does not wish to lose the confidence of the international Labour movement, it should release all those detained immediately and unconditionally." It is no disrespect to the two politicians, who are specifically concerned with the fate of eight people they know, to point out that there are very many other Zimbabweans whose plight is a cause for grave concern, and that it is not only the confidence of the Labour movement which is at stake.

Alongside the MPs' letter we printed another which drew attention to the non-sequitur favoured by apartheid apologists who use black African tyrannies as a diversion from South African oppression. When one is talking about apartheid that is true; but when one is concerned about human rights in Africa it is not. We have never understood (except as a typical manifestation of government reluctance around the globe to surrender any kind of power) Mr Mugabe's refusal to repeal his sweeping security laws used against him and his supporters by the white UDI regime of Mr Ian Smith before 1980. There is no moral difference between whites in Rhodesia-as-was or South Africa-as-is using such barbarous laws against blacks and the Shona-speaking majority in Zimbabwe using them against the Ndebele minority and any other indigenous inhabitants of the ruling party's party states. (Including a few of Zanu-PF party supporters.) And extra-legal brutality by security forces is to be condemned regardless of the identity (or colour) of perpetrator and victim alike.

Recent weeks have seen not only the detention of the trade-unionists but also the murder in broad daylight at a railway station of five opposition supporters. Capital was the military siege of the main Zapu of Matabeleland and base of the main Zapu of opposition led by Mr Joshua Nkomo. Most sinister of all and in the worst banana-republic tradition, people have begun to disappear as ghostly white Land Rovers carrying unidentified thugs arrive at dead ends of night to spirit them away to unknown destinations. Even if a loyal opposition is a contradiction in terms in Africa, Mr Mugabe is so overwhelmingly well placed to win the first post-independence election in June that such measures seem hysterical as well as callous. There is no reason to believe that Mr Mugabe orders them to stop. If he does not, many who saw the recent BBC Panorama programme will soon conclude that he is responsible because, in a rare and personally counter-productive interview, Mr Mugabe dismissed objections to detention without trial and discounted the gruesome evidence of mysterious mass graves which the viewers were not spared. As the revolution begins to eat its children, it is high time for Mr Mugabe to understand the damage the brutal zealots are doing to an international goodwill which is neither blind nor inexhaustible.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

100 days after Bhopal—and the chemical multinationals have still to clear the air

Sir, — One hundred days after the world's worst industrial accident — at the Union Carbide plant in India — March 12 was designated International Bhopal Day. We wish to emphasise that little, if anything, has been done by the multinational companies which dominate the farm chemical manufacturing industry to avert similar disasters in the Third World or developed countries.

Indeed it was only strong public pressure from the people of Livingston, West Lothian, which prevented Union Carbide from building a gas blending plant within 500 yards of houses: the extremely toxic gases, arsenic and phosphine, would have been used in amounts small enough to avoid several of the so-called regulations. And Union Carbide still appears unable to supply information on the medical hazards arising from exposure to methyl isocyanate (MIC), the poisonous chemical involved at Bhopal.

We trade unionists are

members of the Pesticides Working Group, which aims to control the unregulated flow of chemicals into our environment. We meet under the umbrella of the Agricultural and Allied Workers Section of the Transport and General Workers Union.

Our colleagues in the research team working for the Union Carbide Employees Union in Bombay, tell us that official estimates of 2,500 deaths after the accident are far too low. Their research suggests a minimum of 8,000 dead and 300,000 badly affected.

We will be doing our utmost to provide this union with as much medical information as possible on MIC. But information is sparse. As the Lancet recently observed: "In a year's time we will have learned a little more about MIC — at an appalling price."

Meanwhile the Bill going through Parliament, purports to tighten up pesticide safety; but it does nothing

Reducing the NHS battle to Custer's last stand

Sir, — Your leader ("So how do you save lives?" March 9) on the financial plight of Guy's Hospital and its Lewisham and North Southwark Health District, correctly diagnoses the problem as merely a symptom of a general disease: acute-on-chronic underfunding of the health service as a whole.

A few of the taxpaying public are aware that not only do we spend less on health than our killing people — £15 billion versus £17 billion on "defence" annually — but also we spend a far lower proportion of our national income on health than any other developed Western nation (just under 5 per cent of our gross national product). Even worse, this miserly proportion spent on health has fallen since 1982, so that in real money terms there is no doubt whatsoever that the health service is worse off now than five years ago.

District and regional health managers are being asked by central government to do the impossible, and can no longer provide anything like the civilised service the nation needs and has the right to expect. Acceptable choices in resource allocation become unacceptable — eg, allowing saveable people to die when funding is at the present pitiful level.

The position is worst of all in the supposed "fat" South-

east because this area — in the past have been pushed to dangerous limits and beyond, but each patient costs from £2,500 to £12,000 a year, depending on the type of treatment — so long as they live.

To paraphrase General Custer, the only cheap patient is a dead one — provided, of course, he does not consume too many resources in dying — I am Sir, in desperation.

(Prof) Stewart Cameron, Guy's Hospital, London SE1

Sir, — Prevention is better than cure, particularly when no real cure is available. This is so for spina bifida.

So it is surprising that the Government which pays lip service to the importance of preventive medicine, should now propose to make prevention of spina bifida more difficult. From April 1, doctors will be unable to prescribe, on the NHS, Pregnavite Forte, a special multi-vitamin preparation believed by many to reduce the risk, at least for those mothers who have already given birth to a child with spina bifida or related abnormality.

Can the chief medical officer please explain this decision, and take steps to rectify it? The case is quite different for all other multi-vitamin preparations, none of which has been well tested

for ability to prevent recurrence of spina bifida in the family.

(Prof) J. H. Renwick, Preventive Teratology Unit, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Sir, — Your reports (March 5 and 6) that Mrs Thatcher — having been briefed on Mr Reagan's welfare system on her recent visit to the US — is intending to introduce vouchers for single payments to those on supplementary benefit, and for dispensing NHS spectacles, indicate that she is plumbng a new low, even for her, in mean mindedness and victimisation of the poor.

Not only does DHSS already make out most supplementary benefit single payments in the form of Girocheques payable to the retailer — illegal though I believe this is — but they are also spending extremely sparingly after the most thorough investigation of strict need. The idea that someone who has been judged to need a bed or essential clothing, should then spend the cash — even if payment is made in this form — on a television or video is ridiculous.

Hounding poor people over the alleged abuse of a few thousand pounds and making (literally) a Downing Street meal out of it, when this country is devastated by the

IF GILES MASON WAS CHANCELLOR THE WORLD WOULD BE A DIFFERENT PLACE.

Giles Mason is 11 years old. He has just sent us three weeks' pocket money to buy food for the Ethiopian people. He has seen the hungry faces on television. He knows it's wrong to let people die from hunger.

Giles is not alone. Hundreds of children have gone without sweets and toys to send us their savings. Pensioners have given money they can ill afford. One retired man gave his entire life savings of £10,000.

Disabled, sick, elderly, unemployed — the poorest people in our society have joined with others more fortunate to show that they will not stand by while the drought victims of Africa suffer starvation.

We have a new campaign to fight world hunger "Hungry For Change". If you would like to join us or make a donation, please fill in the coupon below. Together we can make the world a different place.

I want to help the drought victims of Africa.
I enclose my donation of
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And please send me your "Hungry For Change" information pack

Please send to Guy Chingor, Room 9015, Oxford, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7TZ.
For credit card donations phone 0855 56916.

Miscellany

Sir, — The excellent article (Third World, March 9) on René Dumont's belief about ill-advised educational priorities jogs an initial memory on arrival in the central African bush.

Having reached Lusaka, I was down 600 miles to the main town in Zambia's northern province. Hardly a metropolis itself, Kasama's runway was no more than a red-dust airstrip. My journey not yet over, I bumped my way in a Land Rover across 130 miles of dirt track to Mporoto.

Once settled in, I was taken on a tour of the school. One of the first doors opened to me presented the incongruous sight of 22 typewriters: the business-studies room. — Yours sincerely, Edward Thomas, East Sussex.

Sir, — Colin George (Letters, March 11) is looking for precise English. A little precise thought tells us that Onan actually practised, coitus interruptus, though his seed spillage is often misinterpreted in Mr George's fashion.

Examining Lord Bridge's investigation in this light, the following points arise: that the security services have, in fact, been "penetrated," and that Lord Bridge was being careful that nothing should come of his investigation.

Unfortunately, as a method of interception — the new science of protecting communications interception — the failure rate is very high. — Yours faithfully, Christopher Moss, London E15.

Sir, — Given Tate and Lyle's long association with Liverpool, can we expect to see the new modern art gallery specialise in cubism? — Yours faithfully, Peter Barnes, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

The sergeant who broke the law of the second world war

Sir, — The Ministry of Defence spokesman whom you (deport "Services discharge 87" says, March 9) as saying that homosexuals are unsuitable for the armed services, should be reminded that during the 1939-45 war many thousands of these "unsuitables" of all nationalities died on battlefields all over the world fighting, so they were told, for freedom and democracy.

And more than 35 years ago I had just served three years' National Service as an army sergeant. I'm gay now. I was gay then; but presumably I was fortunate not to be "discharged." Even so I was very careless: some of my fellow-soldiers came to know I was gay — I told them — and it didn't appear to worry them much, though I occasionally had my leg pulled about it.

I had a number of homosexual relationships during those three years, after all I was 19 to 21, the "years of my lusty prime" you might say — and some involved other members of the armed services. We were all very "unsuitable." I broke the law so much that perhaps the MoD would like to prosecute me now?

It would be interesting to hear the MoD's justification of its statement that being gay makes a man or woman



Fringe benefit

Sir, — Could we, the residents of the remote parts of the British Isles be issued with car passes to ensure that, in any future period of international stress, the car loads of Moleworth ratepayers could be turned away from our relatively safer areas. — Yours faithfully, Huw Roberts, Bangor, Gwynedd.

Sir, — The identity disks that Cambridgeshire police plan to issue to the residents around Moleworth will have no formal legal status. One can therefore hope that some public-spirited organisation will produce several thousand duplicates, once the design is known. — Yours faithfully, Francis Deutsch, London, NW 4.

unsuitable for the armed services, especially when gays have been in all the armed services at all times in all countries since the year dot. Why are the odious Service Discipline Acts relating to homosexuality still in existence? It's Catch 22: as long as they exist, blackmail may occur.

Perhaps the MoD is alarmed by the idea that gays may want to spend too much time making love not war. ... But let's face it, Mr MoD spokesman, it's more than likely there are still hundreds — maybe thousands — of these nasty "unsuitables" still at it. Those "challengers" certainly have their work cut out. — Sincerely, Bernard Dobson, 34 Steeles Road, London NW3.

three out of fifteen plants of curly kale look like providing fresh shoots, whilst from a similar row of purple-sprouting broccoli it seems that four plants may survive. The Brussels sprouts look equally desolate, but the upper buds, protected by the crowns, have already provided a few helpings, and should survive to sprout out into the young shoots which, in this household, we consider to be tastier than the misnamed "sprouts," which are, of course, merely fat buds. But although subjects which projected above the eight or nine inches of snow cover paid for their exposure, lowlier crops which had

Society Tomorrow letters — page 13

A COUNTRY DIARY.

OXFORDSHIRE: Now that one can see the effects of the recent protracted spell of wintry weather on the garden — and my area was one of the hardest hit with regard to both low temperatures and deep snow-cover — the most serious casualties are amongst the winter greens, most of which have brown, drooping foliage hanging limply on stout but rotting stems. The tenderest of these, the old-fashioned broccoli (which I refuse to call winter cauliflower in defiance of bureaucratic interference with long-established names of vegetables), have been completely wiped out, whilst the harder subjects, only

the benefit of a complete blanket snow have pulled through well. Thus autumn-sown lettuce and sweet peas, in open ground without any protection, are none the worse for their chilling experience, whilst autumn-sown broad beans, which had already grown to almost a foot high, have completely disappeared apart from some black and rotten stems on the ground. Paradoxically have so far been unaffected, owing to another form of severe frost — that of the freezer in which last season's surplus beans and peas were stored.

W. D. CAMPBELL

150 من الجاهل

SOCIETY TOMORROW

Wednesday March 13 1985 13

Sexual abuse of children is no longer the best-kept secret of them all, though the victims remain too easily coerced into silence. Malcolm Dean reports

If children can be warned about matches, they can be warned about sexual assault

NO ONE knows how many children are sexually assaulted in the UK. Many assaults are not even reported to police. Those that are reported often do not lead to prosecution, as many parents and police are aware that an investigation and prosecution can be more traumatic for the child than the abuse. A further complication is that offenders are usually known by the family — and often family members like uncles, brothers, or the parents themselves.

The first serious survey of sexual victimisation in the UK is published tomorrow (March 14) from the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University. And it confirms how widespread sexual abuse has become. There were 600 women in the survey — 430 on a GP's register and 170 students — of whom half were prepared to talk about their experience. About a quarter had suffered some form of pre-adolescent sexual contact with an older man. Another quarter had not been touched but had been pursued by exhibitionists, or obscene telephone calls, or had been subjected to some verbal sexual suggestion.

There is, however, an even more important finding in the survey. It confirms feminist assertions that pre-adolescent sexual experiences can have more serious and permanent effects than earlier sexual surveys have suggested. Thirty years ago, the massive Kinsey survey in the United States revealed a similar proportion of pre-adolescent sexual abuse — roughly one quarter of the 4,400 women surveyed — but the follow-up studies on Kinsey suggested that these experiences had little effect on sexual adjustment in adulthood, unless violence had been involved.

This conclusion began to be contested by feminists in the 1970s, and in the new study from the Institute of Criminology, Professor Donald West supports this feminist scepticism. He set out to discover the after-effects of sexual abuse and found that "somewhat to my surprise, the effects were more adverse and permanent than I had expected".

About one third of the women who had suffered some sexual experience in childhood said they still suffered some effects. The survey found the women were less well-adjusted sexually than a control group who had not been abused: their experiences made them more likely to be at either end of the spectrum — either sexually inhibited or sexually promiscuous but dissatisfied. Only 6 per cent of the 500 women who replied to the survey reported incidents involving actual or attempted sexual intercourse, and some of these were with older boyfriends rather than with male relatives. But some of the apparently more innocuous incidents assumed greater importance over time, as the women realised the significance of what had happened.

About half the women who had had some experience said they had never told anyone. The survey also found the incident found the focus of the subsequent inquiries far more traumatic than the incident. Those who had been interviewed by police had tended to find the questions humiliating, embarrassing or frightening. Police, social workers and GPs were often described as having failed to understand the child's feelings and having made the situation worse.

Professor West draws similar conclusions to the advice contained in last week's pamphlet from the Child Assault Prevention Programme, a pressure group which began in the US and now works in the UK, providing training workshops for parents and teachers. Parents should take more seriously what their children say, they should not over-react, and children should be given more sex education. The women in Professor West's survey said if they had understood what was happening they would not have cooperated.

She emphasises the need for children to be aware that they will receive comfort and support after an incident even if it was a result of the child breaking a family rule like crossing a park alone at night. Many children do not tell because they are scared of being scolded for doing something they were told not to do. Mrs Elliot adds: "Adults are often concerned that talking about preventing assault will make children afraid or anxious. Yet parents teach children from the time they are very young that there are dangers in the world. Children learn not to play with matches, to avoid harmful medicines and how to cross streets. In the same way, using common sense, children can be taught to prevent sexual assault not only by strangers but also by someone they know and trust."

THE NHS, whatever its other virtues, isn't distinguished for being user-friendly. To pregnant black women, with English as a second language, it's a medical Babel and a cultural conundrum. But an innovative project in Hackney, as a new report shows, has set about mediating between one culture and another with impressive results, and major implications for the rest of the NHS.

It's easiest to define what the Hackney Multi-Ethnic Women's Health Project isn't. It isn't an interpreting service. True, interpreting was needed by the Asian and other ethnic minority women who use the borough's maternity services, many of whom newly arrived in Britain. Misunderstandings arose when staff couldn't get accurate information on past pregnancies or previous health problems. And, failing to communicate with patients in conventional ways, they would resort to the traditional British way with other nationalities, speaking loudly and over-elocuting.

But the problems weren't merely linguistic. Many of the women were terrified of being seen by male doctors and in addition to the usual problems surrounding antenatal care (long waits, inadequate information, impersonal care), a deep spring of racism increasingly bubbled up. The problems in antenatal care were projected on to the users of the service, or non-users — labelled defaulters and criticised for "poor compliance".

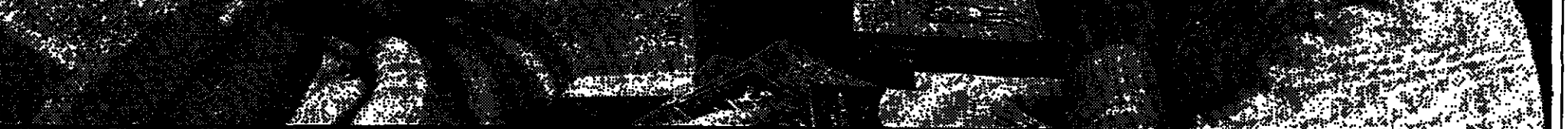
When City and Hackney Community Health Council were alerted to the problems, they boldly decided against an interpreting scheme, and chose instead to use advocates. Says Shameem Habibullah, one of the project workers: "Nothing changes if there is just interpreting, it is a one-way process. We would merely have transmitted the hospital's wishes and instructions to the patient. We want much more than that. We want to defend and stand with the woman, make the woman's wishes known also to the hospital so that it's a real two-way process, not just in understanding language, but in sharing what goes on in hospital if it is unacceptable to our women."

"Our women," the terminology reveals the essential orientation of the project, which started in 1980, funded

by Inner City Partnership money. The five part-time workers — speaking Turkish, Urdu, Gujarati, and Bengali — were recruited for their commitment to their communities and their experience (sharing as many characteristics as possible with the non-English speaking women using the maternity services), rather than their formal qualifications.

This perplexed NHS staff, used to attributing status and respect according to degrees and diplomas, and who constantly quizzed the advocates about their qualifications as health workers and their lack of formal training. The advocates deliberately don't wear uniforms, which might have reassured some NHS workers,

but would have alienated them from the women they were working with. Though based in the maternity unit, they're expressly not part of the NHS management. The advocates take personal and medical histories, and relay women's wishes to the doctors. They explain procedures like amniocentesis. They help women in the labour wards, giving information about the state of their labour. And the work has expanded to cover housing, financial, and marital problems, filling forms, writing letters, and making phone-calls on their behalf. A persistent problem is ensuring access to women doctors, a cultural necessity for Asian women but often neglected by the NHS, through shortages or resentment.



Project conference: "Nothing changes if there is just interpreting." Picture by Kenneth Saunders

The hospital pain killers

Having a baby is a daunting experience at the best of times, without having to rely on staff who may be indifferent to, or ignorant of, your ethnic background. Anne Karpf looks at a scheme designed to make patients feel rather more at home

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The workers' training has been unconventional: learning mainly through doing, and in training sessions with the emphasis on reinforcing the workers' experiential knowledge and not replacing it. The advocates have also taken a basic midwifery course, and had sessions with a bereavement counsellor on breaking bad news to the women: telling mothers that their babies were dead or handicapped is painful for the workers as well as the mothers.

They're supported by a CHC steering group, comprising both representatives from ethnic minorities and NHS staff, which has weathered

similar problems to the project workers. They mostly arise from NHS staff feeling threatened by lay intervention, and fearing that their own work and status will be at risk or devalued. Says Fedelma Winkler, secretary of City and Hackney CHC: "Here was a situation in which new workers were coming in from the outside, standing up for a group of very vulnerable women, asking questions and challenging assumptions held about those women and articulating their wishes. The fact that the workers were accepted with relative ease is a tribute to the support they received from senior NHS staff and to their own personal skills."

The problem of racism in the NHS, however, is more institutionalised than personal. What the project has been able to do is to raise it as an issue, as well as to help challenge the kind of racist sweeping questions like "what do Asians eat?" or "what do Muslims want?" and to try to get the NHS to be more sensitive to individual wishes.

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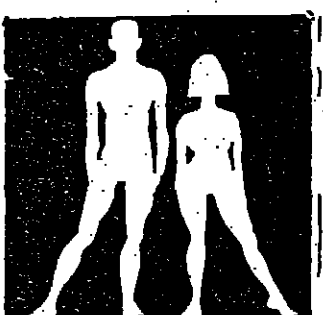
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The women's experience of racism is extensive, from nurses making up their own (English) names for the babies of non-English speaking women, to clinic receptionists ordering patients to bring their passports with them to outpatient clinics. The Project, although it believes that fundamental structural changes are

needed to combat racism, can respond by taking complaints to senior NHS staff, and holding meetings with staff about racism. Their success is undeniable. There has been action on specific issues: they've managed to get district agreement that, where at all possible, women who require it will be seen by women doctors. They've also helped teach NHS staff about patients' perceptions of the service, its gaps, and changes needed. A consultant obstetrician claims that the project has "indisputably improved the quality of service to the non-English speaking women", citing as evidence increased ante-natal attendance, and reduced numbers of



BODY AND SOUL

The whole truth

the rest of us. The worry begins when quantum mechanics introduces consciousness into its arena, as in Professor David Bohm's Wholeness and the Implicate Order, and in the paper to the IBM audience given by Dr Basil Hiley, reader in physics at Birkbeck College, London.

The laws of physics, Dr Hiley believes, need now to be supplemented by what he calls a "quantum potential", unlike any known in the classical canon, in particular because it "contains a form of non-locality, a strange action at a distance".

It was this which Einstein could not stomach. If two quantum systems which had been interacting continued to interact when separated, as by being driven apart at speeds greater than the speed of light — this, he argued, would necessitate some form of telepathic communication between them. Experiments which have been conducted since, though their results have tended to confirm that such communication exists. The implication, for Hiley and Bohm, is that nature cannot be explored along reductionist lines, treating the proliferating sub-atomic particles as separate entities.

Nature is "composed of undivided totalities," as Hiley put it: "an undivided wholeness." This alarms many physicists, because they have been conditioned to regard telepathy as occultist nonsense. Worse: the inter-connection should be attributed not to telepathy — nuclear systems can hardly be said to have minds — but to psychokinesis. Physical action at a distance. And in spite of the fact that all of us experience psychokinesis all the time in the action of gravity, the prejudice against accepting that it may account for phenomena such as poltergeist activity remains very strong. Ghosts in The Machine was the subject of another of the papers, delivered by Dr Alan Gauld, of Nottingham University. I suspect that as recently as three days ago, his evidence would have been greeted with derision — if, indeed, he had been allowed to present it: even Leslie Banks might not have had the heart to lay it out. But the case for "non-locality" has now been so persuasively put that the evidence for action at a distance in "poltergeist-type" phenomena based by impressive investigations such as the one conducted by physicists at Rosenheim, has been strengthened to the point where it becomes difficult, except for incurable sceptics.

Significantly, though they are quick to impute fraud and delusion in other cases, none have seriously challenged the findings. "Although recorded with the facilities available to experimental physics, the phenomena defy explanation with the means available to theoretical physics."

"Straight" psychokinesis, in short, would seem to be closer to acceptance, but for one snag. Poltergeists have the reputation of being "intelligently controlled" — as the Rosenheim investigators put it about theirs. It is not just a matter of accepting action at a distance, but of considering the possibility of unconscious sorcery on the part of the human "focus" — or worse, of spirits. And even sympathetic magicians may well react to that with "Aaaaargh!"

Brian Inglis

The faulty logic of machine idolatry

SECOND OPINION

AT FIRST sight of the new journal The Edge (critically examined by Jim Dyer, Society Tomorrow, February 27) when advertised on television, I wondered how the IBA could possibly have sanctioned its appearance. In her adjoining column, Mary Midgeley is critical of those who are so enamoured of computers and machines as to endow them with a capacity to think beyond that of the human brain. These two aspects of what we call masculine consciousness fit together.

Like Mary Midgeley, I have seen the human capacity for imagination, generous feeling, even love, as more valuable gifts of our species. Even, in fact, more creative in our society today is either an enormous exaggeration or a reflection of the dire state of our society. Between 1542 and 1786, probably fewer than 1,000 people were executed in England for witchcraft. The "witch" threat to our society, male and female, is therefore probably quite small.

Paul Norman Bradford.

Hormones beef

INVOLVING vets in the administration of hormones and other growth-boosting drugs to Britain's fatstock (Society Tomorrow, February 20) compromises the profession in two ways.

First, vets in some practices are under pressure from powerful clients to connive at dubious procedures, which extend to the use of antibiotics and other drugs that today's Pharmacists Giles wants to ply. Competition from illicit sales on the black market can force some vets' hands.

Second, the vet's professional vows pledge them to do their utmost for the welfare of the animals under their care. Prescriptions for growth-boosters serve no such therapeutic purpose: they foreshorten the time required to "finish" these

travestied beasts for the butcher. It is time the profession asserted itself by washing its hands of the abuses in farming-by-needle.

Alan Long, Research Advisor, The Vegetarian Society, London W8.



The Edge: now what about an end to the sex war?

dependently produced, the UK data deriving from the Agricultural and Food Research Council Institute at Compton and Aberdeen University. Julian Best, Hoechst UK Ltd, Animal Health Division, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

Sixty not out

THE CASE of Dr Marianne Janosi, who must retire at 60 (Body and Soul, February 27), exemplifies what is still the dominant thinking of many managers and administrators about women. In spite of the gains of the Equal Opportunities and Sex Discrimination Acts, women are still seen as being useless the moment they pass 60. Yet there is certain evidence that the life expectancy of life at 60 is longer for women than for men.

I, too, was forced into retirement at 60 years of age, from the University of Liverpool, where I was a cataloguer in the University Library. I made it plain that this was not what I wanted, or thought was fair or right. Male colleagues retire at 65.

Why do employers think that women will enjoy their extra years in retirement, deprived of work, companionship and status which their male contemporaries continue to enjoy? Salary is forgone and a pension for these five years and subsequent ones is lower than that which male colleagues will receive at 65. Many women are independent at this time, and the discrimination cannot be justified in any way. Employers who insist on this practice should reconsider their motives in insisting on differential retiring ages and respond with the natural justice of equality.

Grace Wyatt, Ormskirk, Lancashire.

DR JANOSI should not be unduly surprised if BUPA's discriminatory action against her retire at 60 because she is a woman. After all, private medicine discriminates against the sick on the basis of income.

Bob Pile, Enfield, Middlesex.

GLC

Working for London

Management Analysts

To provide advice to line managers on major staffing, systems and management matters, ensuring that proposals for development changes to staffing and organisational structures meet the Council's financial and policy objectives. This includes assisting in the annual evaluation of departmental personnel budgets and the budget setting process.

A pragmatic and innovative approach is called for, together with communication and interpersonal skills of a high standard and proven capacity to handle and interpret numerical data.

Salary: £14,781 - £16,545 inclusive.

For an application form, to be returned by 29th March 1985, write to: GLC Personnel Department, Room 325, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 5728/6650.

Project Development Officer

Industry and Employment Branch

The Greater London Council is committed to supporting a wide range of employment related groups, these include women's and black and ethnic minority employment projects, co-operative development agencies, trade union resource centres and other community groups working in and campaigning around employment and unemployment issues.

In addition to working with a wide variety of community and trade union organisations, the officers will liaise with other parts of the Council and other local authorities. Good communication skills are therefore essential. Candidates should be good organisers, possess sound judgement, be capable of assessing financial and legal aspects of projects and able to work on their own initiative, often under considerable pressure.

Candidates will be expected to have: an understanding of the issues of racism, sexism, heterosexism, a commitment to challenging these and an awareness of the needs and demands of people with disabilities; substantial experience in relevant areas such as community organisations and/or trade unions. A sound understanding of the Council's industry and employment programme and a commitment to its development and implementation is essential.

Salary: £13,065 - £14,781 inclusive.

For an application form, to be returned by 29th March 1985, write to: GLC Director of Industry and Employment, Room 203, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 2390.

Recruitment Officer

To take the lead on recruitment of white collar staff in a department with a complement of some 700 staff. All aspects are included, from preparation of job specifications to interviewing and documentation of appointments. There is also involvement in preparing staff estimates and budgets.

An experienced administrator is sought, with good drafting and communication skills, numeracy and the ability to work well under pressure. An understanding of staff development issues and commitment to their use in promoting equal opportunities is essential for this post.

Salary: £11,325 - £13,065 inclusive.

For an application form, to be returned by 29th March 1985, write to: GLC Department for Recruitment and the Arts, Room 606, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1666/4056.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

These posts are suitable for job sharing

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The Association, a locally-based charity working in South Central Birmingham with over 775 homes in management and a continuing and varied development programme, wishes to appoint two members of staff:

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Pension Scheme; Car Allowance

To work on the full range of housing management duties in areas of mixed communities from different ethnic origins. Applicants, who will preferably have gained or be studying for the qualification of the Institute of Housing, must have experience of working in housing or a related field in inner urban areas.

A current driving licence is essential.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Salary £5,238-£6,420

This is a temporary 12-month appointment to cover for maternity leave. Duties will include accounting and book-keeping, typing and general office work. Experience is essential.

Applications for both posts are to be made in writing with full curriculum vitae by Wednesday, March 27, 1985, to:

Mr J. Simmonds, Director
Moseley and District Churches Housing Association Limited
166B Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8HS

As an equal opportunities employer we welcome applicants from all sections of the community

PERSONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

£17,499 - £18,753

Following the retirement of the present post holder an opportunity has arisen for a creative social work professional to be involved in the community policy. The Council is committed to community based policies and has integrated its housing and social services 'care activities' under the umbrella of a Personal Services Department. Whilst this post is the statutory officer for social services it is based in a Department which contains many other functions involving welfare and housing.

If you feel that you have the managerial and professional capacity to be involved in the introduction of a radical policy of community care responsive to public needs please contact Gillian Turner or Debbie Oulton on St. Helens 52105422 for an application form and further details, to be returned to the Personnel Services Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, St. Helens, Merseyside WA10 1HP by Friday, 29th March, 1985.

As part of the Council's Equal Opportunity policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of disability, marital status, race or sex.

St Helens
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH A Community Authority

ASHRAM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

wish to appoint

TWO EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Salary: Scale 6, £8,154

(Current level, increase pending)

Post 1 EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Post 2 WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Wanted for community employment project in Sparkbrook, Birmingham, to develop employment initiatives, especially co-operatives, and small businesses based on traditional skills in mainly Asian neighbourhood.

Details from: The Coordinator, SPARKBROOK ASHRAM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT, 25, 25 Grenville Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham B11 1LL. Tel: 021-773 7061

Closing date: March 30th, 1985.

GREENWICH COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

requires

1. PROJECT WORKER

to work with ethnic minorities (Full time)

2. EMPLOYMENT WORKER

(Full time or 2 part time posts)

3. IMMIGRATION WORKER

(Part time; could combine with employment)

Further details from: Law Centre, Rotherbury Hall, Azof Street, London SE10 0EF. (Please mark envelope 'Job Vacancy').

Greenwich Community Law Centre is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

Cheshire

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - COUNTRYSIDE

£10,716 to £12,243

CHESTER

This is a senior post combining the functions of Assistant Director, dealing with policy and of Head Ranger, managing staff and countryside facilities. The area of responsibility is that part of Cheshire east of the M6 motorway. We are looking for someone with proven management skills and the ability to communicate with people at all levels. Experience in countryside management would be an advantage.

For further details and an application form please write to the Director of Countryside and Recreation, Cheshire County Council, Goldsmith House, Chester CH1 1SE, or telephone Chester (0244) 602815.

Closing date March 22, 1985.

All applicants will be considered on the basis of suitability for the post, regardless of sex, race, marital status, religion or disability.

The WEST MIDLANDS THINK GREEN NETWORK

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

to further the aims of the network by providing a more productive working relationship between the public, private and voluntary agencies

3 year contract funded under Birmingham Inner Partnership Programme at approx. £12,000 p.a.

Further details can be obtained from: Mr J. R. Allen, 11, Birmingham B4 7UL, 021-258 3021 (afternoon) or on 16th March 1985.

Candidates may be appointed at any point within the scale, and excellent benefits include car allowance, index-linked pension and removal assistance where appropriate. Previous applicants need not apply.

For further details and an application form, please contact Donna Mansfield, The Housing Corporation, 148 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0BN. Telephone 01-387 9466 ext. 433.

The Housing Corporation

Leeds Part-time (50% of £10,452 - £13,668)

This is a half-time post, which offers considerable flexibility. Monitoring visits may sometimes involve working 3-4 days consecutively, and attendance at evening meetings is occasionally required. Normally working days may be arranged in advance by the post holder - for instance, to avoid school holidays.

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The Housing Corporation

Monitoring Officers

Positive change in progressive housing

Cardiff - Wolverhampton - Croydon £10,452-£13,668 plus £627 Outer London weighting (Croydon only)

The Housing Corporation is a forward-looking, forward-thinking organisation which promotes, finances and supervises registered housing associations throughout Great Britain. We work together to provide homes for sale and rent - to the highest standards within budget constraints - for those in need. These appointments will make a direct contribution to developing and strengthening that relationship in future.

A vital part of our role is to ensure the effective operation of associations and encourage positive change by monitoring their internal management and committee control. Reporting to the Senior Monitoring Officer, you will:

- participate in the regional monitoring programme including conducting and reporting on monitoring visits

- examine and appraise management systems, information channels and general procedures

- follow through remedial action where necessary

A tactful and persuasive negotiator, you will have experience of management or organisational analysis. Knowledge or experience of voluntary organisations or public funding would be an advantage. We are looking for flexibility, initiative and an analytical approach. Visits sometimes last more than a day and the Monitoring Officer may occasionally have to stay away from home.

At evening meetings is occasionally required. Normally working days may be arranged in advance by the post holder - for instance, to avoid school holidays.

Candidates may be appointed at any point within the scale, and excellent benefits include car allowance, index-linked pension and removal assistance where appropriate. Previous applicants need not apply.

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The Housing Corporation

PROJECTS OFFICER
c. £9,500

An exceptional vacancy exists within the Area/Enterprise Programme Development Division of the Scottish Development Agency for an innovative and inventive Projects Officer.

Although the work is varied, the main function is concerned with local economic initiatives throughout Scotland and the further development of the Agency's role within these initiatives.

Essentially, the successful applicant will carry out work in relation to Agency policy on urban and rural projects, the preparation of statistical material, monitoring existing projects, supervising consultancy work and liaison with other organisations - particularly those in the private sector - to ensure their active participation in projects and employment initiatives.

The division is helping shape the Agency's activities and the successful applicant will be expected to make a creative contribution to this multi-disciplinary team. While proficiency in economics and statistics is necessary, the ability to assimilate and develop new ideas is equally vital.

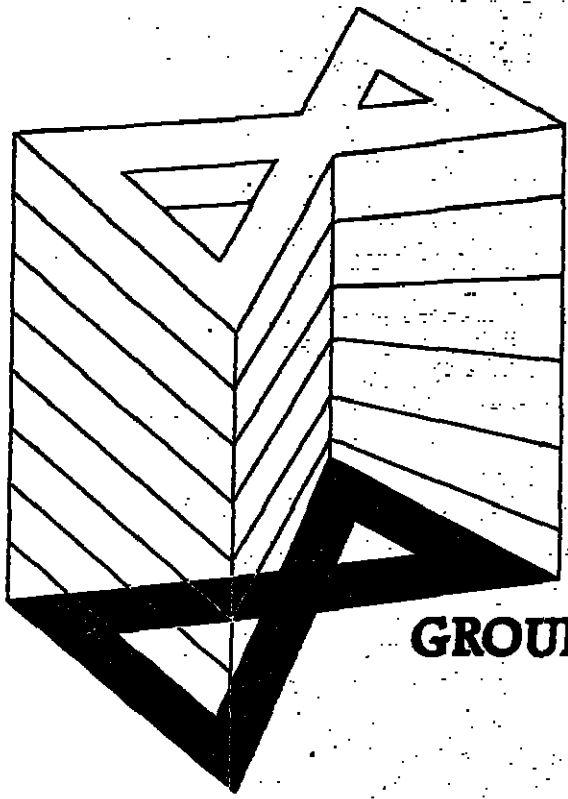
Please write and tell me something about your career to date and why you think you could meet the Agency's requirements.

Write quoting Reference Number GUA/PPS to David Swift, Staff Executive, Scottish Development Agency, 120 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 7JP. All applications should be submitted within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

Open to male and female applicants.



GROUND FLOOR INVOLVEMENT

Chief Administrative Officer
Salary £15,015 to £16,044 — Grade PO5

You will be head of the Administration division, managing the central support sections for the Chief Executive's group of services. As well as being responsible for these varied functions, you will be directly involved in the organisation of Parliamentary and Local Government Elections and Civic Functions.

You will need to have had substantial proven managerial experience, coupled with the ability to organise and motivate staff.

In conjunction with the Finance and Personnel Service, you will formulate the budgets for the Service and have personal responsibility for the implementation of personnel procedures and practices.

A sound knowledge / experience of both personnel and financial procedures is therefore essential.

There is a great deal of contact with Members, Senior Officers of the Council and outside organisations; communication and inter-personal skills are therefore essential for this job.

For an application form and further details please contact: G. Jones, Borough Secretary, Civic Centre, London N22 4LE (01-861 3000, ext 3855).

Closing date March 25, 1985.

Haringey

Progress with humanity
Haringey is an equal opportunity employer. We welcome your application which will be considered on merit, irrespective of race, marital status, sex or any disability you may have.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

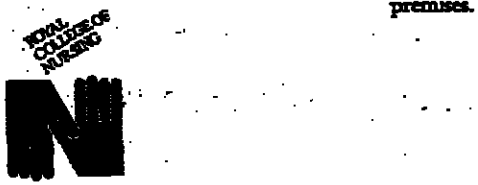
Salary scale £11,782 — £14,444 per annum

The Royal College of Nursing, the trade union and professional organisation for nurses, is looking for an innovative and energetic Senior Administrative Officer. He or she will manage 15 staff and have responsibility for ensuring that there is an efficient administrative, secretarial and clerical support service within the Professional Nursing Department, including supervising the servicing of membership entities and their committees, working parties and conferences.

Significant experience of managing the provision of administrative/secretarial services is required, together with a knowledge of information technology, word processing and up to date office systems.

Application form and further details are available from the Principal Personnel Officer, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB. Tel: 01-409 8333. Closing date for return of applications: 25th March 1985.

The RCN actively discourages smoking in all its premises.



Yorkshire and Humberside Tourist Board

DIRECTOR
£19,602 x £513(3) — £21,141

Applications are invited for the above post, following the appointment of the present holder as Director to the East Midlands Tourist Board.

The Yorkshire and Humberside Tourist Board is responsible for the development and promotion of tourism within the region and has a current budget of some £800,000. The Board membership reflects a three way partnership between the commercial sector, local authorities and the English Tourist Board, and is regarded as one of the most successful Regional Tourist Boards in the country.

The post of Director, which carries responsibility for 13 staff, is based at the Board's offices in Tadcaster Road, York.

Further details may be obtained from the Secretary and Legal Adviser, Room 221, County Hall, Wakefield, WF1 2GN. Tel: Wakefield 367111 ext 2224, to whom letters of application, with full CV, should be sent by 28 March 1985.

Ref: HOC277G

DAY CARE OFFICER (ETHNIC MINORITIES — ELDERLY)
£9477-£10107 p.a.

In Bradford we are committed to providing an appropriate level of service to the ethnic minority population. We are a multi-racial, multi-cultural city with groups of Asians, West Indian and Mid-Eastern European people whose different needs and demands often merit special consideration. Several community groups are establishing their own day care networks for their elderly and, in order to support these groups and foster new initiatives, we need someone to help the established groups and advise community organisations of setting up day care services. You must be sensitive to the needs of the minority groups, and since much of the work will be with Asian people, the person appointed will be able to communicate in one or more of the relevant languages. If you feel you have the experience, ability and staying power for this post please contact Eddie Kane on 0274 752956 or Shabir Shemari on 0274 732438.

A Union Membership Agreement is in operation.

Application forms are available from the Directorate of Social Services, 4th Floor, Pendine House, 2845 Well Street, Bradford BD1 5BE.

City of Bradford Metropolitan Council

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from candidates of any age, sex, race or disability unless otherwise stated.

Closing date — 20 days after appearance of this advertisement.

Leeds is an equal opportunity employer.

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Two outstanding opportunities to help reduce unemployment in Bristol
COMMUNITY BUSINESS AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
£10,716 — £11,562

We urgently need an energetic, articulate, resourceful young executive to join Bristol's Economic Development Office and help create jobs specifically by promoting and assisting community businesses and co-operatives in the area.

You would work in close liaison with Avon Co-operative Development Agency to identify and seek out suitable work for co-operatives and would be responsible to Bristol's Director of Economic Development for helping people to start or join them.

This would involve assisting them in negotiations and arrangements for setting up, advising them on administration and other problems, organising training courses in liaison with other agencies, and examining applications with the City Treasurer for financial assistance.

You would be in contact with commercial organisations, public authorities and Government departments, attend and brief committees and make regular progress reports to Bristol's Chief Executive and Director of Economic Development.

You should be well educated and have several years' commercial or marketing experience. You'll need to be determined and persuasive and above all enthusiastic, with a firm belief that soundly-based co-operatives can make a valuable contribution to Bristol's job creation programme.

CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT WORKER
£9,477 — £10,107

We also need a financially knowledgeable adviser to act as a fieldworker in the promotion of jobs in Avon through the establishment, operation and funding of viable workers' co-operatives.

You would report to Bristol's Director of Economic Development and be specifically responsible to him for Avon Co-operative Development Agency finance and for financial advice to co-operatives.

But functionally you would be seconded to Avon Co-operative Development Agency indefinitely, and would supervise any support staff allocated to the Agency.

You would help to find suitable work for co-operatives, inform the public in Avon about their products and services, advise on fund management, administration, computerised records, research, and training courses.

A good education in general, and some accountancy/financial experience in particular, are essential.

For further information and an application form for either job, please telephone Graham Downing, Recruitment and Equal Opportunities Manager, on Bristol (0272) 26031 Ext 247. Or write to him at the Council House, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR, quoting reference EXO42/GD (Community Business Officer) or EXO43/GD (Co-operative Development Worker). All applications must be returned by Friday 29th March 1985.

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

BRISTOL
for job opportunities

NALGO

requires an

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER

to work in the Research Section, responsible for policy development including the servicing of specialist committees, working parties, etc., preparing briefing material for senior officers and members of the NEC and the provision of information and advisory services to negotiators. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to all aspects of the section's work but initially their major responsibility will be for servicing the Energy Policy Advisory Committee and the Construction Policy Sub-Committee; for providing briefing for the corresponding TUC Committees and the "little neddies" for building and civil engineering; and covering transport, water and environmental issues. The job should therefore suit an economist with an interest in the nationalised industries/public utilities and construction, or someone with extensive experience in the above fields.

Appropriate degree an advantage but trade union commitment, some knowledge of current economic and industrial relations issues, statistical ability and an awareness of contemporary issues are more important. Applicants will be considered on the basis of their suitability for the post regardless of sex, race, marital status, sexual orientation or disability. Commencing salary: £12,675 p.a. on a scale rising to a maximum of £13,797 p.a. (inclusive of London Weighting).

Application forms and further details from the General Secretary, National and Local Government Officers Association, 1 Mableton Place, London, WC1H 8AJ. Telephone: 01-386 2298.

Completed application forms must be received by the General Secretary no later than 29th March 1985.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE VACANCIES IN THE THIRD WORLD

VS sends skilled people for two-year appointments to work for development and self-reliance in the Third World. We are looking for qualified and experienced people to work on a modest living allowance in:

Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique and Swaziland.

Current requirements: construction supervisors, architects, planners, civil engineers, foresters, agriculturalists, poultry hatchery coordinators, rural development coordinators, primary health care instructors, doctors, nurse-practitioners, occupational physiotherapists, medical laboratory technicians, teachers — science, maths, geography, EFL, remedial, primary, and pre-school/infant for health education. Two-year contract including modest living allowance and flights. Regret no funding for dependants. Applicants must be resident in the UK or Ireland.

For further details send short c.v. and logs a.s.a. to: VS, Business, International Voluntary Service, 251, 253 Regent Road, London, W1B 5Y.

NORTH EAST LONDON PROBATION SERVICE PROBATION SERVICE ASSISTANT

A vacancy exists for a person to be seconded to a residential project for homeless young people in Newham.

Salary within the scale £5,861 to £6,554 + £1,191 London Weighting and excess allowance £330.

Further details and application forms from:

NE LONDON PROBATION SERVICE

177-191 High Road

South Woodford, London E18 2QS

Telephone 01-504 9527

Closing date March 25, 1985.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR GROUPS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Age Concern wish to develop Good Neighbour Groups in Kensington and Chelsea.

Full-time post for a Development Officer available for one year.

Salary about £7,500.

Details from Age Concern, St. Mary Abbots Hospital, Marlow Road, London, W6 5LQ. Telephone 01-937 9108.

Professional and skilled volunteers for Southern Africa

Work for the United Nations — and make it work!

United Nations Volunteers is looking for a variety of people to work in Southern Africa.

Botswana wants a Wildlife Training Officer, an Agricultural Science Teacher, a Physiotherapist as well as a Computer Systems Analyst. Lesotho needs a Cottage Industry Adviser for the Women in Development Support Project, and they're also looking for a Market Researcher for their Trade Promotion Project.

As a UN volunteer you will find the work demanding, and your values challenged. You will also have the satisfaction of helping a third world community to develop.

UNV's are recruited in the U.K. by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO). But UNV posts are not limited to people without dependants — married couples with up to two children may apply.

For further information please complete and return the coupon straight away.

I am interested in volunteering. My qualifications/experience are:

Name:

Address:

Post to: Enquiries Unit, Voluntary Service Overseas, 9 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PW (22p SAE appreciated)

UNV

It's up to you

BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

HIGH DEPENDENCY UNIT MANAGER (MERTON)

£8532/£10107

Merton High Dependency Sheltered Housing Estate in the Social Services Department comprises 72 tenancies which accommodate dependent elderly people — 22 Care Officers deployed by the Manager have input of various levels to the tenancies. We are looking for a suitably qualified person to develop this community.

For further information please contact Mr Ian Ricketts, Principal Officer (Residential Services), Tel: 388000.

Closing date: 29th March.

CENTRE WARDEN

JNC Range Spts. 1-5

£7866 / £8844

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced Youth and Community Workers or Teachers with Youth and Community Services experience for the above post at Bolton Youth Workshop, Stanley Street, off Deane Road, Bolton. The successful applicant will be responsible for the day-to-day and evening supervision of the Youth Workshop and should hold craft qualifications, ideally with an industrial background.

Further details available.

Closing date: 27th March.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Bolton, BL1 1RU (Telephone 22311, Extns. 597 and 6105). Trade Union Membership is a condition of service.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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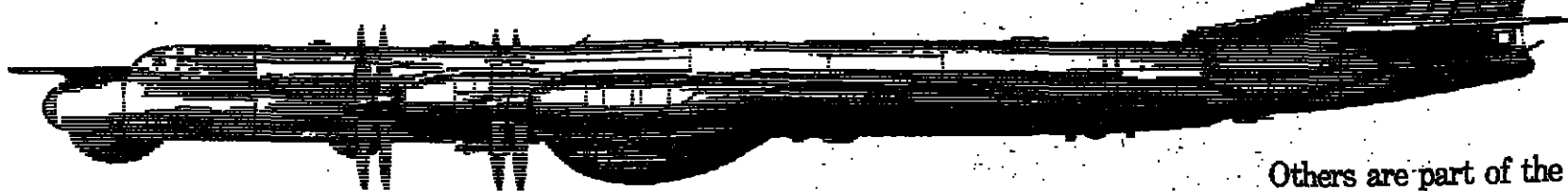
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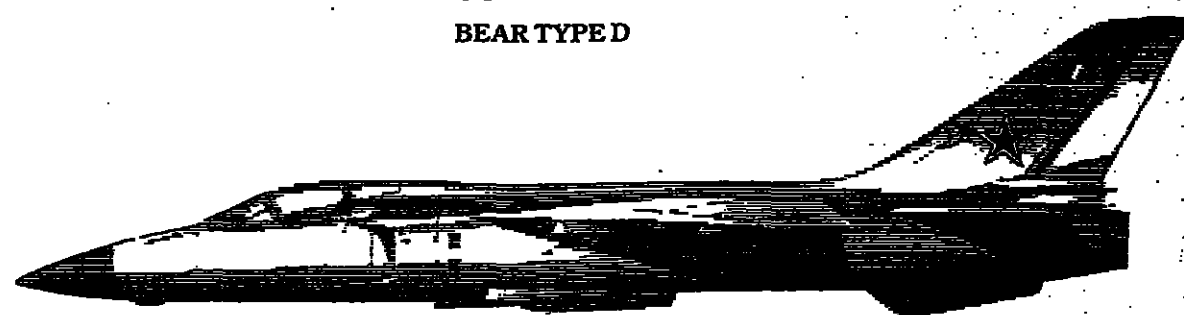
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These things are sent to try us.



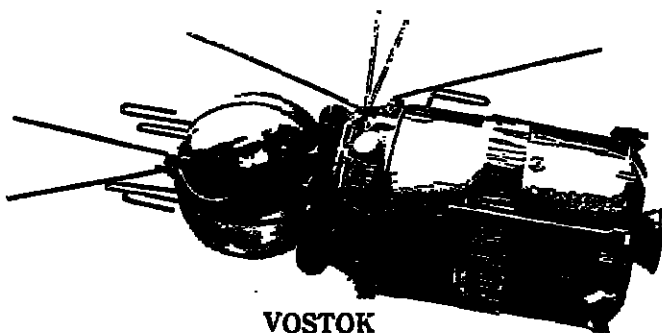
BEAR TYPE D



FENCER



BLINDER



VOSTOK



FOXBAT

Others are part of the team which operate the surface-to-air missile systems ordered to engage the enemy.

As early warning aircraft extend Britain's air defence net even wider, they will carry Fighter Controllers. Crucial to every mission (and earning flying pay) they will monitor and track any air or sea threat. The equipment they'll be using is among the most sophisticated radar and computer hardware you could hope to work with. Naturally it will require a number of specially trained Fighter Control Officers to program and interpret the information.

Others will also specialise in the control and development of the complex software needed by our ground defence radars.

The possibilities and the responsibilities are really quite remarkable. You'll also have the opportunity to travel abroad as well as to enjoy sports and social activities superior to those most other jobs can offer.

But above everything else you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that Britain is in safe hands. Your hands. And when things are sent to try us, you'll be there.

What now?

Ideally, you should have a degree or 'A' levels, but a minimum of 5 GCE 'O' levels at Grade C (or equivalent) including English Language and Maths is acceptable.

If you're 17 to 30 you can join on a 4-to-6-year Short Service Commission or a commission for a longer period.

For more information, call in at any RAF Careers Information Office or write to Group Captain P. E. Terrett, OBE, LLB, RAF, at (FK) Officer Careers (07/11/03), London Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4PZ. Please include your date of birth and your present and/or intended qualifications.

Formal application must be made in the UK.

Fighter Control



RAF Officer

Social Services

Senior Social Worker

ref. AG807710.

Required for Mansfield Area Office, to manage an assessment team of 5 Social Workers in this busy Area Office, which comprises of 3 Child Care Teams, an Elderly/Handicapped Team, a Domestic Violence Section, a Social Work Team for the Deaf and a Student Unit. It is hoped to develop a Mental Health Team shortly. The successful applicant will be part of the management group and will be expected to participate in policy formulation and area management, as well as leading his/her own team. There are excellent opportunities for those with initiative, energy and commitment to develop skills in management, as well as undertaking some project work. Career development will be encouraged and supported. Applicants should be professionally qualified (C.O.S.W.) and have had at least two years post qualification experience.

Applicants wishing to have an informal discussion and visit to the office should ring Mr. E. A. Hughes, Area Director or Mrs. S. M. Davies, Assistant Area Director, Telephone: Mansfield 22551. Closing date 27 March.

Community Development Worker

ref. DH50110.

(Commencing salary dependent upon relevant experience). Required for the Clontarf/Borough Community Development Project which is an established project (7 1/2 years) in Central Nottinghamshire. The project has close links with community groups having involvement in local issues of housing, health, transport, unemployment, youth activities and women's groups. Work also exists in relation to the Newark Federation of Tenants and with tenants groups in NCB housing. The project has good communication through a highly successful community newspaper. The successful applicant (male or female) will be expected to maintain existing commitments but will have space to develop new initiatives as relevant. The project is managed by a local committee on which local community representatives serve together with officers of the Department. Candidates should be appropriately qualified or experienced in community work, should hold a current driving licence and own or be prepared to buy a car. Essential car user allowance is payable. For further information/informal discussion contact Zdzislaw Luczynski or Frank Noonan on Mansfield 890891. Interviews to be held on 15th April. Closing date 25 March.

Social Worker with the Deaf

ref. JM289110.

Required a qualified Social Worker who would be interested in developing skills to work with deaf people and their families and who has drive, commitment and an interest in developing an understanding of the social and psychological implications of this handicap. Training will be given to the postholder (male or female) to develop skills in manual communication. This provides a unique opportunity to combine generic skills within a specialist area of work. Close links are already established with the deaf community and other agencies which encourage a preventative aspect to the work. The post will be based with a team of social workers with the deaf in Nottingham who cover all the statutory and voluntary aspects of social work with the deaf.

Salary according to experience and qualification normally Level 3 (£9,532-£10,107 p.a.) if qualified with 4 years experience; Level 2 (£7,524-£8,820 p.a.) if qualified with 2 years experience. Pre course experience as a Social Worker is required. For further information/informal discussion please contact Jean Greenes, Senior Social Worker with the Deaf, Tel: Nottingham (0532) 412421. Closing date 28 March.

For all the above posts relocation expenses where appropriate. Requests for application forms and job descriptions for the above three posts should be made in writing to the Staffing Section, Social Services Department at County Hall. Please quote post title and reference when applying.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall, West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 7QP

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION

TRAINING ADVISER

The Leonard Cheshire Foundation provides care for physically handicapped people and former psychiatric hospital patients, through 75 residential homes and hostels and 19 Family Support Services. Applications are invited for the newly created post of Training Adviser.

The primary task of the Training Adviser will be to help homes and services to achieve as high a standard of care as possible by providing, in collaboration with regional Care Advisers, advice and support to the homes and services in developing their own training activities. Applicants should be experienced trainers, with a relevant qualification and not less than three years post-qualification experience. Experience of residential work and work with disabled people would be particularly appropriate.

Salary range £10,716-£11,562 per annum. The post will involve an average of one to two days a week at the central office and will involve substantial travelling. A car will be provided. Closing date for applications: 8 April 1985.

For further information or discussion contact Paul Brearley, Deputy Director (Care), The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN. Telephone: 01-828 1822.

Week after week, Britain's defences are being put to the test.

Somewhere in the mass of civil and military aircraft that regularly criss-cross our airspace there are uninvited visitors.

Visitors who are less than welcome.

Visitors who try to stay hidden.

Visitors who are potentially hostile.

Up above, the picture's even more complex. The earth is ringed with satellites and space debris.

From time to time a new satellite joins them unannounced.

Its intentions unclear.

Its capabilities unknown.

So twenty-four hours a day, men and women of RAF Fighter Control closely study their radar screens, interpret what they

see, and search out unwanted visitors.

At each Sector Operations Centre, a Fighter Control Officer leads the team which monitors and identifies every aircraft in their area.

When an unidentified aircraft is spotted, the Fighter Control Officer takes command at once. He confirms that the plane doesn't correspond to known flights. And then gives the order to scramble fast jets of the Quick Reaction Alert Force.

Staying in constant radio contact with the aircrew, he guides them on radar to intercept and shadow the intruder.

In exercises or in war, Fighter Control Officers will manage the air defence battle, select the targets, alert missile defences and direct our aircraft.

Council for National Academic Awards

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

To assist the Personnel and Training Officer in providing a full personnel service to the Council. Duties will include recruitment of clerical, secretarial and administrative staff, maintenance of manual and computerised records and information systems, and involvement in training analysis and activities.

Applicants should possess either HND or a degree, and possess or be working towards AIAPM. Previous personnel experience is essential and public sector experience is desirable.

Salary Scale: £9,780-£10,362 p.a.

Further details and an application form from: Personnel & Training Officer, CNA, 344/354 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8BP. Tel: 01-278 4411.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 29 March 1985.

Warrington

HEALTH AUTHORITY

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

56 Sankey Street, Warrington

HEALTH EDUCATION OFFICER

Scale 4, £7,737-£9,431

A new post exists for Health Education Officer to join a recently established Unit in Warrington. Previous experience or background in Health, Education or Social Sciences necessary.

Preference will be given to candidates who possess a diploma or degree in Health Education. Use of a car would be an advantage but not essential. An enthusiastic, motivated and inquisitive person, with good communication skills is required.

This post is open to two people wishing to 'job share'.

Informal enquiries welcome. Contact Val Aherne, District Health Education Officer, on Warrington 51188, ext. 244.

Application forms from Unit Administrator—Community, Community Health Offices, 56 Sankey Street, Warrington WA1 1TH. Closing date: Friday, March 22nd, 1985.

COMMUNITY NURSERY ADMINISTRATOR

20 hours per week; Salary £5,286 p.a.

A Friendly Community Nursery is looking for a lively and reliable administrator to work closely with the child-care team. You will need broad administrative experience, knowledge of accounts/PAYE, and good communications skills.

If you are interested in under-fives' day-care and enjoy sharing responsibility, write with c.v. (before 22nd March) to: BEATTY NURSERY CENTRE, 102 Abdon Road, London N16. (Tel: 254 7309).

Beatty Nursery is an equal opportunities employer.

Cambridge City Council is committed to giving its highest priority to the Housing Service. In pursuing this aim there has been a major restructuring in the Housing Department which has created the following new post:

Senior Housing Officer

(Community Support)

Scale 6/50.1 £8,532-£10,107

The Officer will be responsible for the development of support services to Council tenants which will enable them to remain in their homes rather than to move to specialist accommodation within an institutional environment.

The main duties involve the management and development of Warden Controlled Schemes, development of a new central emergency call system, adaptations for the physically handicapped and provision of housing for vulnerable single people. The post holder will be required to liaise with outside bodies and associations.

This is a fourth tier post. Account will be taken of suitable qualifications, but above all the successful applicant must demonstrate an ability to identify problems and innovate solutions. A driving licence is essential. Generous relocation expenses may be paid in appropriate circumstances.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from The Housing Manager, 44 St. Andrew's Street, Cambridge CB2 4AS.

Telephone 0223 358977, ext. 311.

Closing date: 29th March 1985.

City of Cambridge

An equal opportunity employer

CHARITY DIRECTOR

£12,000 + Car

Crohn's in Childhood Research Appeal is a small national Charity which raises funds for medical research into Crohn's Disease. It has now grown sufficiently to appoint its first Director.

The Director will have wide ranging responsibilities for organising and administering the Charity's work, in particular the Director will initiate fund-raising activities, increase membership and encourage the development of local volunteer groups. He/she will enjoy the excitement of personally leading the Charity forward on this new job.

Candidates, resident within 35 miles of Central London, must be self-starters with hard working skills and administrative experience.

Please send full career details to:

Mrs B. Lee, Secretary, C.I.C.R.A., 48 Ewell Drive Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3BN

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

The Association currently has the following vacancies:

ADVISORY OFFICERS

1. WESSEX (BASED IN BRISTOL)

2. CHILTERN (BASED IN DUNSTABLE)

3. LANCS/CUMBRIA (BASED IN PRESTON)

ALL CIRCA £9,500

These vacancies are new posts in each of the above Areas and we need people who will meet and thrive on this challenge. Ideal candidates will have experience of advice work & working with local committees; experience of Local Authority Structures; commitment to the ideal of the CAB Service; dynamism and initiative.

Possession of a driving licence is essential, car provided. Luncheon Vouchers, generous leave, contributory pension scheme.

For job descriptions and application forms please WRITE on a postcard stating preferred area to:

Personnel Department, NACAB, 115 123 Pentonville Road, LONDON N1 9LZ

CLOSING DATE: 29 MARCH 1985.

All applicants considered on the basis of suitability for post regardless of sex, race, marital status or disability.

THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT

is seeking a

PROJECT ORGANISER

whose responsibilities will include membership promotion; the management of Anti-Apartheid News and fundraising (typing offices and organisations skills an advantage).

Suitable candidates should have an interest in, and understanding of, the situation in Southern Africa, campaigning experience and a willingness to work hard under pressure.

Salary under review - currently £500 - £675.

Writephone for job description and application form to:

Executive Secretary, Anti Apartheid Movement, 13 Marlowe Street, London W9 1DW

Tel: 01-877 7380

Completed forms to be returned by Friday 22 March 1985.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement is an Equal Opportunities Employer

Birmingham Tribunal Unit

requires a Welfare Rights worker with a special interest in the field of disability to fill the post of

DISABILITY RIGHTS OFFICER

The job involves: Social Security Appeals work.

Developing and teaching courses on benefits for people with disabilities and related issues.

Encouraging and assisting organisations to carry out localised take-up campaigns.

Developing other projects around disabled people.

We positively encourage applications from disabled people for this post.

Birmingham Tribunal Unit is an equal opportunities employer.

SALARY: APS801.

For further information and application form contact: Judith Cowell, Administrative Officer, Birmingham Tribunal Unit, Fourth Floor, Cornhill House, 41 Lord Street, Birmingham B2 1AP. Telephone: 01-252 2895.

Closing date for applications: 19 April 1985.



WIRRAL
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

COMMUNITY INTERMEDIATE TREATMENT OFFICER

£9477-£11025

Experienced in working with juvenile offenders and a working knowledge of the Juvenile Justice system to join a team who are developing both intra and inter agency liaison and co-operation, combined with a range of community supervision, focusing on diversionary programmes, and I.T. programmes specifically directed as an alternative to care and custody.

For informal discussion contact Mr I. Ritchie, 051-647 7000, ext. 476.

Essential car user allowance is payable.

Application forms from the Director of Social Services, Social Services Centre, Cleveland Street, Birkenhead, Wirral (051-647 7000, ext. 490) returnable by 29 March.

HUMBERSIDE CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

are required to work on the promotion and development of co-operatives especially workers co-operatives throughout the county of Humberside. Strong commitment to co-operative principles is essential. While the possession of relevant skills and/or qualifications will be an advantage the ability to acquire new skills and to work collectively as a team will be more important.

Humberside Co-operative Development Agency is committed to equal opportunities and the cost of childcare facilities for people with sole responsibility for children will be discussed at interview. Salary £5,000 to £11,000.

For further details and application forms, contact the Secretary, Peter Allen, Humberside C.D.A., c/o T.G.W.U., Bevin House, Hull HU1 3DB or ring Eric Rigby on Hull (0482) 41451.

Closing date for applications 30th April 1985.

To advertise in Public Appointments write or phone:

The Guardian
Telephone Sales Department
77-79 Farringdon Road
London EC1R 3ER
Telephone: 01-430 1234
or 164 Deansgate
Manchester M60 2RR
Tel.: 061-832 7200, ext 2161

NEW HAM

HOUSING SERVICES

homes for living in

FIELDWORK SERVICES OFFICER SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

Grade: PO (3-5). Salary: £11,916 to £12,800 p.a. (incl.).

We are looking for a manager, preferably with a background in housing, to take charge of fieldwork activities in the north of the district and to be responsible to the District Manager. South East District covers East Ham and part of Custom House, together with Barking, South Docklands and four estates located outside the Borough. This Officer is responsible for the whole area excluding the North Woolwich Neighbourhood Office - some 5,400 properties, 5,000 of which are in-Borough. The District Office is located in East Ham.

The post will be responsible for Fieldwork Teams, responsible for estate management, technical and caretaking functions and will play a leading role in servicing the 'Tenants' Liaison Committee and in encouraging 'Tenants' Associations to participate in the management of their estates.

There is a large rehabilitation programme in the District and, as well as overseeing the management of schemes on site, with particular emphasis on tenant consultation and welfare, the successful candidate will be able to contribute to reviewing the District's Capital Programme.

The responsibilities of this post are liable to change on decentralisation and further information can be provided on request. Newham is a Borough with a multi-racial population and the Council is conscious that its policies and delivery of services should reflect the needs of local communities and applicants should preferably have experience in working in a similar background. However, more important is a commitment to making sure there is equality of opportunity in providing the service and in eliminating racial harassment on estates.

An application form and further details are available by writing to the Chief Executive's Department (Management Services Division), Town Hall, East Ham, SE 20 2PP or by telephoning 01-471 0619 (24 hour answering service).

Please quote Ref: ASC/328. Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

COMPUTER LIAISON OFFICER

£12,507-£13,491 p.a. incl.

We are committed to encouraging the introduction of new technology in the Housing and Property Service. Substantial progress has already been made; major on-line systems include Rent Accounting and Void Monitoring, Housing Benefits and Housing Maintenance packages while there has been a substantial growth in "end-user" computing.

The Computer Liaison Officer reports to the Assistant Director (Administration) and works closely with computer services. Duties include carrying out feasibility studies, co-ordinating the implementation of new systems, training of staff, and support of personal computing on both mainframe and microcomputers.

Applicants should have a background in housing with experience of on-line computer systems and/or microcomputers. They must be able to communicate with senior housing officers and professional computing staff. Knowledge of systems analysis techniques would be an advantage.

The Royal Borough of KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Application forms, quoting Ref. 525, from the Personnel Service, The Town Hall, Horton Street, London W8 7NX. Tel: 01-837 8562 (24 hour answering service).

Closing date for applications: 29th March 1985. WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

NORMID HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED HOUSING ASSISTANT (WOLVERHAMPTON)

Normid is a progressive and expanding Housing Association managing over 2,000 properties in the West Midlands. The Association provides accommodation by improvement of older housing and the construction of specialised housing for those in serious housing need.

We need a Housing Assistant to join our Wolverhampton Area Team. The work will involve the full range of Housing Management activities, including close liaison with maintenance staff.

We are looking for someone capable of working on their own initiative, who can demonstrate the commitment, energy and understanding needed to work with tenants, voluntary and statutory agencies.

The successful applicant will have a proven record in Housing or a related area, will hold a full driving licence and ideally will be fluent in Punjabi and/or Hindi.

Salary will be in the range £6,386 - £7,284 p.a. There is a contributory Pension Scheme, BUPA membership and a car allowance.

If you think you have the sort of background and experience we are looking for, then please write or telephone for an application form and job description to:

Elaine Ganderton, Housing Services Manager, Normid Housing Association Ltd., 57 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton WV1 4QH. Tel. Wolverhampton 772321.

Please quote reference number 029.

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 29TH MARCH 1985

There are many kinds of Public Services... but for most of the jobs in all the Public Services, read The Guardian every Wednesday. Wherever you work, from a forest to a laundry, you could find the next rung of the ladder any Wednesday in The Guardian.

YOU CAN FIND IT IN THE GUARDIAN

GLC

Working for London

Join us in the fight against racism

Our Ethnic Minorities Unit is in the front line of the fight against racism in London. The challenge offered by these posts is enormous and to fill them we are looking for women and men who know London's ethnic minority communities and understand their needs - who are aware of the effects of racism and can bring enthusiasm and commitment in support of the Council's anti-racist and race equality programmes.

Race Relations Policy

All posts concerned with policy work require a knowledge of local authority structures and the independent voluntary sector, together with the ability to collect and analyse research data and findings in the preparation of policy documents and reports. A knowledge of the special needs of the groups in each area is essential.

Race Relations Adviser - managing and co-ordinating the activities of policy workers specialising in housing, planning and policies for women, gay men, lesbians, ex-offenders and other policy areas. The post carries responsibility for advising the Council on the race equality aspects of the Local Government Bill 1985 and for overseeing the Council's Anti-Apartheid Declaration. Proven staff management and supervisory skills are essential.

Salary: £15,906-£17,670 inclusive. Ref: 5560.

Policy Worker - Black Women - concerned with meeting the needs of black and other ethnic minority women, with special emphasis on policies and programmes of action for lesbians and on health and childcare matters.

Salary: £14,781-£16,545 inclusive. Ref: 5567.

Policy Worker - Black Gay Men - To be responsible for developing and implementing programmes and policies concerned with meeting the needs of black and other ethnic minority gay men.

Salary: £14,781-£16,545 inclusive. Ref: 5564.

Policy Worker - Black Arts - responsible for advisory and support services and outreach/development work in the fields of arts, recreation and sport, and to also co-ordinate responses to issues in relation to welfare rights and people with disabilities.

Salary: £14,781-£16,545 inclusive. Ref: 5565.

Policy Worker - Housing - co-ordinating and monitoring the Unit's work to ensure the implementation of a race dimension in housing, planning, transport and public safety policy areas.

Salary: £14,781-£16,545 inclusive. Ref: 5566.

Administrator - providing all round admin support to Race Relations Advisers and Policy Workers, arranging and monitoring meetings, drafting reports and papers and dealing with correspondence and enquiries. You must possess good organisational, typing and communication skills.

Salary: £6,929-£9,255 inclusive. Ref: 5571.

Administrator - with a knowledge and experience of employment practices and procedures, to work in support of the Race Relations Adviser concerned with employment and training, serving programmes covering case work, black workers and ex-offenders.

The ability to deal sympathetically and confidentially with the problems faced by individuals is of paramount importance. Salary: £11,325-£13,065 inclusive. Ref: 5570.

These posts are suitable for job sharing

Information & Campaigns Team

The divisional team co-ordinates the Unit's campaigns, information and publicity programmes of action against racism.

Head of Division - manages and co-ordinates this work and carries specific responsibility for Member level liaison with the London Boroughs on race equality issues. A knowledge of the structure of local government in London and experience of the voluntary and/or public sector are essential.

Salary: £15,906-£17,670 inclusive. Ref: 5561.

Campaigns/Publicity Co-ordinator - advises on the racial dimensions of publicity and co-ordinates the Unit's response in support of anti-racist initiatives and programmes. This calls for a thorough knowledge of publicity and of the ethnic minority media in particular.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5568.

Special Programmes Co-ordinator - to co-ordinate initiatives and events arising from the Anti-Racist and 'Jobs Year' programmes. A knowledge of independent voluntary sector should be combined with some experience of organising and promoting major events.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5569.

Consultations/Working Groups Co-ordinator - works alongside outreach/liaison workers within the Division and in voluntary organisations, co-ordinating and implementing the Unit's consultation programme and working groups. A knowledge of the voluntary sector is needed, together with experience of organising meetings and conferences.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5563.

Irish Community Development Worker

This post is concerned with the development of new initiatives aimed at meeting the needs of London's Irish community. It involves liaison with the boroughs, monitoring the work of Committees and dealing with a range of voluntary and statutory organisations. A background in working with ethnic minority organisations, plus experience of arranging meetings and following up their decisions are the key requirements.

Salary: £13,065-£14,781 inclusive. Ref: 5562.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men, from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For an application form, to be returned by 29th March 1985, write to: GLC Director-General's Department, Room 203, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1527. Please quote appropriate reference.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

£16,986-£18,318

The recently established Economic Development Division in the Department of Economic Development and Estates is responsible for promoting industry, alleviating unemployment, encouraging co-operative development, obtaining funding for the Council's economic programmes and other associated activities. The Assistant Director will be directly responsible for managing and developing the work of the Division, which at present has an establishment of 17 posts, and for implementing the Council's policies.

Ideally, the successful candidate will be qualified in an appropriate discipline i.e. Economics / Planning. Candidates must also have extensive experience of a similar area of work and the ability to consolidate and expand the programmes already established.

Further details and application forms are available from the Director of Personnel and Management Services, City of Edinburgh District Council, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1PL. Telephone 031-225 2424 Ext. 6428/6419.

Edinburgh District Council is an equal opportunities employer. Applications are invited from women and men, from all sections of the community, irrespective of ethnic origin, disability or sexual orientation, who have the necessary attributes for the post.

City of Edinburgh

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS P/T REGIONAL OFFICER MERSEYSIDE

The Federation's Part Time Regional Officer for Merseyside is becoming our national Home Ownership Officer.

We are looking for a half-time Regional Officer who will act as Secretary to our Merseyside Regional Council; will liaise with the Merseyside office of the Housing Corporation; will represent associations to the Merseyside local authorities and to the Department of the Environment; will advise and guide member associations; and will act as a bridge between the Federation's headquarters and the Region.

The ideal applicant will have considerable experience and practical knowledge of housing association affairs.

The post will be based in Merseyside, and secretarial support will be provided.

Salary: (NJC grade PO1) £10,404-£12,981 p.a., pro rata.

Closing date for applications: 4th April; interviews: 12th April.

Further details from the Regional Co-ordinator, National Federation of Housing Associations, 175 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8UP.

LORD MAYOR TRELOAR COLLEGE HEAD OF SKILLS COURSE FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (£10,000 - £14,000)

A new post as soon as possible to develop the course for age 16+ students in occupational skills, general, social and independent training. This is a non-maintained special boarding school for 270 physically handicapped boys and girls of a normal range of intelligence, aged 9-19+.

This is a challenging and exciting job requiring vision, managerial ability and enthusiasm. Applicants with industrial experience and a practical background will be welcome. School holidays. Accommodation may be available.

For further details and application form send s.a.e. to The Headmaster, Lord Mayor Treloar College, Upper School, Holybourne, Alton, Hampshire; GU34 4EN. (0420) 83508.

PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUPS ASSOCIATION Wales - PPA - Cymru requires SPECIAL NEEDS LIAISON OFFICER to work within Wales

This is a full-time post, salary scale £7,000-£8,250. Three-year Contract. For job description and application form, apply to: Wales P.P.A. Regional Office, 2A Chester Street, Wrexham, Chwyd. Closing date: March 22nd 1985

NEW COUNCIL

PERSONAL ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

£11025 - £11889

The Chief Executive is seeking a young professional - any discipline - preferably with some practical experience of local authority administration who wishes to broaden his/her experience. You will have a wide role, being involved in, amongst other, local economic development measures, employment initiatives, press liaison / public information, formulation of policy options, forward planning, special projects and research.

You should be able to work under pressure when the occasion demands and show initiative in a challenging, but rewarding post. A generous relocation scheme including legal/estate agents fees up to £1,150; 100% removal expenses; disturbance and temporary subsistence allowances.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND APPLICATION FORM PLEASE CONTACT: Personnel & Management Services Unit, Council Offices, Market Street, Newport, Gwent, NP23 5BA.

Tel: Newport (0693) 42400 ext. 2111 (Mrs Gamble)

CLOSING DATE: 29th March 1985.

ASIAN COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP PROJECT DIRECTOR

The Asian Community Action Group, which has been established in Lambeth for nearly five years requires a new Project Director. ACAG is a broad-based voluntary organisation working with, and for, all sections of the Asian community in Lambeth. The project has sought to highlight and respond to the main issues facing Asians in Lambeth from the practice of institutionalised racism to promoting all aspects of community development.

The Project Director will be responsible for the management and future development of ACAG in consultation with the project's management committee. There is a staff team of five full-time, and several part-time workers, and it will be the Project Director's responsibility to lead and manage the staff team. The main priorities of ACAG at present are in the fields of health care, welfare rights, youth provision and employment. In addition to developing the existing priorities, the Project Director will be expected to continue ACAG's tradition of developing local initiatives. (Previous examples include projects for the Asian elderly and the multi-lingual print shop).

Applicants should have several years' experience of working in a community setting, proven management skills, and communication and presentation skills of a high order. Additionally, applicants must be able to speak fluently in at least one of the major Asian languages.

Salary: SO1/2. (Salary negotiable).

Closing date: 14/05.

For further information and application form please contact ACAG, 322 Brixton Road, London SW8. Telephone 01-733 7494.

NORTH EAST THAMES REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY Hempstead Community Health Council 124 Heath Street, London NW3 1DU. SECRETARY TO THE C.H.C.

Salary: £8,744 - £10,739 per annum plus £1,084 London Weighting. Holidays: 20 days per annum, plus two statutory days.

Community Health Councils are independent bodies with statutory responsibilities set up to represent local peoples' interests in the NHS. The Hempstead District covers the north part of the London Borough of Camden which includes a wide variety of neighbourhoods from Kilburn to Barnet. The C.H.C. is looking for a Secretary who will:

- a) organise and run the small busy office;
- b) collect views and information about the needs of the local community and the working of the health service;
- c) liaise with local people, the Local Authority, voluntary groups and health service managers;
- d) advise and brief C.H.C. members and take action on their behalf;
- e) help members of the public with advice and complaints.

She/he should have some knowledge of the NHS, be hard working, flexible, a good communicator and administrator. Applications are invited from people irrespective of age, sex, race or disability. The post is full-time, 9.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. Closing date: April 2nd, 1985. Interviews will be held on April 2nd.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from the Hempstead C.H.C., 124 Heath Street, London NW3 1DU. Telephone 01-262 4100. Closing date: April 2nd, 1985. Interviews will be held on April 2nd.

Administrator

£5929-£7737 plus £648 London Weighting p.a.

We seek a man or woman with an administrative background for this post, within the District Works Department, which oversees the Authority's estates and manages its maintenance and engineering needs. In addition to being responsible for managing the office, maintaining financial records, progress chasing, record keeping, you will provide administrative support to the District Works Officer and other professional staff within the Department.

This is both a busy and important post within the Works organisation and requires someone with drive, initiative and organisational ability.

Application form and job description available from the District Personnel Department, Haringey Health Authority, Mountford House, The Green, Tottenham, London N15. Tel. 01-806 1081 Ext. 107. Closing date: 29th March 1985.

Please quote Ref: DB.11.

Haringey
HEALTH AUTHORITY

Cultural Services Department

Senior Librarian

Salary £9,477 - £10,107 plus 7½% Irregular Hours payment. - West Manchester

We require a graduate chartered librarian for this challenging post. The West Manchester Area serves a population of 180,000 through eight district libraries and is also responsible for the operation of the city's mobile library service. The area includes inner city and suburban communities and offers a wide range of development opportunities.

As Senior Librarian you will co-ordinate and monitor the work of staff operating as a team to deliver services which meet the needs of individuals and communities. You will need to demonstrate creativity, initiative, communication skills and the ability to motivate others.

Co-ordinator: Children's Services

Salary £8,532 to £9,114 p.a. plus 7½% irregular hours payment

This demanding but highly rewarding post requires a Graduate Chartered Librarian with experience of children's services in public libraries.

You will lead a team responsible for children's services in West Manchester (being based in that area), but will devote half your time to advising and supporting teams responsible for children's services in libraries throughout the City. You will also have to liaise with other agencies (statutory and voluntary) on a City-wide basis to develop and promote children's services. Initially, you will be required to devote this half time element to assisting research into the establishing of a Schools Library Service for Manchester. Ability to communicate verbally and in writing with people at all levels is essential and an understanding of the needs of inner-city residents would be a valuable asset.

Conditions of service include a 35 hour week, contributory pension scheme and assistance with removal expenses where appropriate. Further details and an application form are available from the Personnel Office, Central Library, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD. Tel. 061-238 9422 Ext. 262, during office hours only. Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Union.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer and we positively welcome applications from women and men regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability age, sexuality, or responsibilities for dependants.

St. Christopher's Fellowship



"Re-advertisement"

WELLBURY HOUSE

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Salary £10,539-£11,364 (under review)

Wellbury is a community home with education catering for the needs of 27 boys divided into three separate living units. We are seeking a professionally qualified residential social worker who has proven residential management experience. The person appointed will need to be able to demonstrate both social work and administrative skills and be committed to the development and supervision of the staff group. There is a three bedroom bungalow available on campus, and although occupancy of this accommodation is preferred consideration will be given to applicants who would wish to live off campus.

Wellbury is situated between Luton and Hitchin close to the M1 and main line stations. Conditions of service are linked with N.J.C. Transferable pension scheme is available. Informal discussions and visits would be welcome - contact Mr. John Gibbs (Principal). Telephone: Hitchin 712445/6/7.

Application forms and further details are available from the Director, 53 Warwick Road, London SW5 9HD. Tel: 01-370 1083/2522.

Closing date: April 5th, 1985.

URBAN AID PROGRAMME COMMUNITY DESIGN FOR GWENT (A free design service for community organisations)

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Applicants should preferably have qualifications up to degree standard and should have experience in administration and management. Salary circa £8,000 p.a.

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT WORKER

Applicants should preferably have exemption from Part II of the RIBA examinations. Salary circa £5,500 p.a.

LANDSCAPE PROJECT WORKER

Applicants should preferably have exemption from Part III of Landscape Institute examinations. Salary circa £6,500 p.a.

Further information and application forms by writing with a SAE to: Newport Resource Centre, 35 Commercial Road, Newport, Gwent, NP9 2PB. Closing date: 22nd March, 1985.



MENCAP

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN & ADULTS LONDON REGION

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

for under fives with special needs

To co-ordinate information and liaise between voluntary and statutory services throughout London.

To assist local initiatives in developing contacts, activities and support for families whose child has special needs.

This post can be considered for job-sharing, and applicants should feel able to undertake administrative work and public relations.

Salary: £9,780 p.a., including London Weighting.

The post will be for 15 months, in continuation of an existing Project, with funding made available by the GLC.

Application forms and further details from Doreen Flint, Regional Director, MENCAP London Region, 115 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0TJ. Telephone: 01-250 4105.

Closing date for applications: Friday 29th March, 1985.

DERBY COUNCIL FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

In conjunction with the Commission for Racial Equality require a

COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER (IN CHARGE)

£9,477 - £12,243 p.a. + allowances.

Derby C.R.E. is seeking to appoint a Chief Officer to succeed Nelson Crowder who will be leaving Derby to take up a senior appointment with another Council. The C.R.E. will take charge of a Council with an established record of progress in community development and a programme to eradicate racial discrimination and promote equality of opportunity.

The officer will lead an energetic team and will have a clear understanding of the complexities of institutional racism both in the public and private sectors and must have proven administrative ability. Application form and further details are available from:

DERBY C.R.E., 31 Northbrook Road, Derby, Tel: (0332) 372226. Closing date: 12th April, 1985.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WANDSWORTH TRAINING AGENCY



is an independent voluntary organisation and a registered charity which receives the bulk of its funds from the Manpower Services Commission and Wandsworth Borough Council. We are now looking for a further member of staff for a placement based scheme offering training and work experience to young people, aged 16 to 17, under the Youth Training Scheme.

TRAINING OFFICER

(£9,252 p.a.)

The training officer will be responsible for planning, preparing, co-ordinating and implementing the education/training programme of alpha scheme, a 60-place retail and community care project.

Applicants should have a sound education/training background and preferably have experience of work in MSC schemes and or with young people in other contexts. In addition we have the following vacancy in one of our community programme scheme's, for the remainder of the schemes funding.

This post is open to unemployed applicants only.

ADMINISTRATOR

£84 per week, 28 hours

He/She will be responsible for the day to day finance and administration of a 22-place building project in Putney. Applicants should have some financial/administration experience. For further information and an application form contact:

P. Shapiro
WANDSWORTH TRAINING AGENCY
17-27 Garratt Lane
Wandsworth, London SW18
Telephone 01-870 8853

Closing date for receipt of applications is 25th March, 1985.

WTA is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from people irrespective of race, sex or disability.

ISLINGTON IS GOING LOCAL

Islington is decentralising its services to Neighbourhood Offices as part of a major programme to improve the service given to the public.

An immediate benefit of the Neighbourhood Offices will be to make the services more convenient and accessible to local residents. These cover: Housing, Social Services including Home Help, Environmental Health, Repair Teams, Payment of Benefits, Payments to the Council, Advice on Council Services, and Welfare Rights.

As a result, a number of posts will arise over the next few months. Candidates must be willing to work at any Neighbourhood Office in Islington. Personal preference for work location will be considered if possible. The persons appointed may be located in the first instance, in an existing department and will be transferred to a Neighbourhood Office as the programme develops. Please call, telephone 01-226 0772 or write for an application form and details to the Housing Department, 292 Essex Road, London, N1. The closing date is first post on Friday, 29th March 1985.



Islington Council

Our jobs are open to all races, both sexes, lesbians and gay men and we have a positive attitude towards the employment of disabled people.

NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS (HOUSING)

£13,491 to £14,574 p.a. P03

We are looking for a number of people to manage Housing Teams comprising Management, Advisory, Allocations, Housing Benefit and Policy Development. The work of the office will need to be open and responsive to the needs of a multi-ethnic inner city community.

The postholders will need to have a proven ability to supervise staff and a high level of communications skills plus a strong background in at least two areas of housing.

SENIOR ESTATE MANAGERS

£11,552 to £12,273 p.a. inclusive S02

The duties include supervision of staff concerned in the day to day management of Council tenancies in the neighbourhood. Particular responsibilities relate to the control of void properties and rent arrears.

Applicants should have a minimum of 3 years' overall experience in housing including at least 2 years' housing management experience.

ESTATE MANAGERS

£9,780 to £10,362 p.a. inclusive. Scale 6

The appointees will manage council tenancies within the neighbourhood on a patch basis. They will be in continuous contact with tenants associations and have responsibility for general tenant liaison, processing of repairs, void control and rent arrears recovery.

Applicants should have a minimum of one year's experience in housing, an ability to communicate with tenants and other departments and be able to generate written reports and other correspondence.

ADVISORY OFFICERS

£7,803 to £10,362 p.a. inclusive. Scale 4/6

Successful applicants will be expected to deal sympathetically with the public on all aspects of the Advisory Service. They will be expected to interview and evaluate housing applications, undertake fieldwork in connection with cases of housing need and homelessness and carry out general administration related to these duties.

Applicants should have some experience of dealing with the public in a Local Authority Housing Department/Housing Association or similar Organisation. A knowledge of current housing legislation including the Housing Act (1980) and the Homeless Persons Act (1977) and an ability to speak one of the Borough's ethnic minority languages would be desirable.

LETTINGS OFFICERS

£7,803 to £10,362 p.a. inclusive. Scale 4/6

Duties involve processing applications and interviewing for admission to the transfer and mutual exchange lists. Postholders will be expected to undertake visits where necessary in respect of approved applicants and to liaise with Area Repair Teams in connection with vacant Council properties. They will also assist in the allocation and letting of dwellings. Applicants should have some experience of dealing with the public and an ability to cope sympathetically with people living in stressful conditions. An ability to speak one of the Borough's ethnic minority languages would be desirable.

IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS

£11,552 to £12,273 S02

The successful applicants will be responsible for the co-ordination of the Council's response to private sector housing problems within the neighbourhood in conjunction with other departments as well as the co-ordination of advice on the planning and implementation of all housing improvement programmes. They will also have responsibility for local developments and monitoring of the agreed housing improvement programme. Applicants should have a minimum of 3 years' housing experience including private sector and/or development of capital funded rehabilitation projects. An ability to communicate effectively with the public both orally and in writing is essential. Knowledge of legislation relevant to private sector housing, CPO procedures and the Housing Act (1980) would be desirable.

These posts are for Phase 2 of the Decentralisation Programme



DIRECTORATE OF TOWN PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Lambeth Enterprise and Employment Programme is looking for a

Principal Business Adviser (Property)

(Ref T7) Salary £14,574 p.a. — £15,806 p.a.

Lambeth is a multi-racial area whose racial disadvantage and social deprivation exists and where the Council is pushing ahead with plans and policies to improve the environment of one of London's poorest Boroughs.

The Lambeth Enterprise and Employment Programme is looking for someone with specialist knowledge of the property market to fill a key post of Principal Business Adviser. Reporting to the Enterprise Services Manager, the post is located in the Council's Business Advisory Service which forms part of the Directorate of Town Planning and Economic Development.

You will be expected to provide specialist help to firms in Lambeth with property problems and will spearhead the Council's initiatives to match company property needs to local opportunities. In addition you will be responsible for providing advice and assistance to clients on a broad range of issues relating to business enterprises. A knowledge and understanding of business skills and industrial and commercial sectors would be an advantage. An appreciation of the needs of black business is essential.

The post is jointly funded with the Department of the Environment under the Lambeth Inner City Partnership Programme and funding is initially available to 31st March, 1988.

Individuals can apply for job sharing.

Application form and Job Description are obtainable from the Recruitment Section, Directorate of Management Services, London Borough Council, 18 Brixton Hill, London SW9 6TJ, Tel: 01-274 7722, ext 3008. Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

As part of Lambeth's Equal Opportunities Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.



Leicester City Council

As part of the City Council's Equal Opportunity Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of marital status, sex, race or disability.

Housing Finance Officer

Salary £11,562 - £12,945

This post offers an ideal opportunity for an ambitious and highly motivated individual who is looking for a challenge and the chance to play a major role in a multi-disciplinary department. The successful applicant will lead the department's finance unit which employs 40 staff and is responsible for estimating and budgetary control, costing, payment of salaries, wages and creditor accounts, stock control and stores accounting. He/She will also be responsible for the preparation of tenders and quotations for, and monitoring the effectiveness and competitiveness of, the department's direct labour organisation under the requirements of the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980.

The person appointed must have broad practical experience in financial management but not necessarily in local government and is likely to be a member of an appropriate accountancy body. He/She must also be able to demonstrate organisational and supervisory skills and be a self starter and innovator.

Assistance with relocation expenses up to a maximum of £2075 and temporary housing accommodation are available in approved cases. Application form (returnable by 29th March 1985) and further details from Director of Personnel and Management Services, New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG. Tel: (0533)45922 ext. 7084.

...your city council working for you

CHIEF RESIDENTIAL OFFICER

The Peppard Trust is moving forward into an exciting series of developments which require the services of a Chief Residential Officer. Currently operating from a hostel for adolescents who are multiply-disabled and severely mentally retarded the trust is modifying a house in Windsor for the care and training of young adults, separate adult training facilities are also being developed nearby. The appointee will work in close harmony with existing administrative staff, clinical psychologist and occupational therapist. Current plans for the further provision for a similar, but younger client group are well advanced.

Applicants must be qualified to work in a senior administrative capacity with a multiply-disabled client group and must have good organising and administrative skills. They must also be able to relate well to parents, social workers and other Local Authority officials.

Because the trust is anxious to attract experienced and well qualified people with energy and enthusiasm who will provide an inspired leadership in this difficult field salary scales have not been finalised but open to negotiation. Further details may be obtained from D. F. Hand, Administrator, Peppard Trust, Peppard House, 45 Woodcote Road, Reading, Berkshire.

SERVITE HOUSES LTD

A REGISTERED HOUSING ASSOCIATION AND CHARITY

requires a

HOUSING OFFICER

Salary Circa £8,500

Required to take full responsibility for the day-to-day management of all our fair rent housing in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea including pre-and post-conversion schemes, new build schemes, special projects etc.

In addition, the post-holder will also be involved in the full range of housing management duties.

The successful applicant will therefore have previous housing management experience and must be able to demonstrate commitment, administrative ability and (above all) skill and sensitivity in dealing with people.

For application forms and job description please contact: The Administration Secretary, Servite Houses Ltd., 125 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3RP. Telephone: 01-870 5466.

Closing date for completed applications forms: Friday, 29th March 1985.

Thames long distance route

Project Officer

Thames Water Authority, in conjunction with the Countryside Commission, wishes to employ a Project Officer to carry out consultations and negotiations on the proposed Thames Long Distance Route. The successful applicant will be qualified in environmental planning or agriculture, will have some experience of consultation, negotiation and public speaking, and will preferably be knowledgeable on public rights of way legislation. He/she will be based at Thames Water Authority's offices in Reading. The post will be for a period of approximately one year. The salary will be in the range of £10,500 to £13,025 depending on qualifications and experience. Applicants must own a car and have a full current driving licence.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from:

Personnel Officer, Rivers Division, Thames Water, Nugent House, Varsity Road, Reading RG1 8DB

Applications must be received by 29 March 1985.

Countryside COMMISSION

RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS WORKER

£7,524 Scale 5.

(Single person accommodation available)

to take charge of a new supported bed-sit project and to lead a four strong team responsible for two small hostels. Other work opportunities include new project development, counselling, training and campaigning. Applicants with previous relevant experience and a social work qualification preferred.

Further details from Peter Walker, Bristol Cyrenians, Central Hall, Old Market Street, Bristol BS2 9EB or telephone (0272) 29623 or 25641.

Closing date for completed applications March 29th.

BRISTOL CYRENIANS

Arteline

THE TELEPHONE INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICE ON ARTS AND LEISURE IN GREATER LONDON FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

requires

THREE WORKERS

Normal starting salary £10,068 per annum inclusive

To work with the director in consolidating and developing Arteline. All workers will be involved in telephone advice, research and campaigning work. Each will also be expected to have one or more of the following skills:

—bookkeeping/budgeting;

—use of computers for information purposes;

—co-ordination of volunteers;

—publicity and marketing.

Knowledge of arts, leisure and or disability networks an advantage.

For interview discussion, telephone Spencer House, 01-482 1088 after 6.30 pm or at weekends. Write for details and application form to Arteline, 5 Grosvenor Road, London NW1 1TU. Closing date Monday, 1st April.

An equal opportunities employer.

LEICESTER HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD.

We are a registered Housing Association with 2,650 properties in management, mainly in the Leicester, Nottingham, and Mansfield areas, and we are seeking:

HOUSING OFFICER (Community Services)

Grade IV/V — £6,309 to £7,837 plus car allowance.

To provide a Housing Management Service to a growing number of Social Projects developed by the Association, and provide support to, and supervision of, residential staff in Projects within Leicester.

Also to give other Housing Officers specialist advice and support in the development of Community Services and Tenant Consultation/Participation.

Please contact Derek Lawrence on Leicester 344516 for further details and an application form.

Completed forms should then be sent to David Sanders, Director, Leicester Housing Association Ltd, 44 Priests Road East, Leicester.

Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

Note: Leicester Housing Association has adopted a Positive Action Policy on Race and Housing.

BUSHEY RESIDENTIAL AND HOLIDAY CENTRE

If you are looking for an opportunity to join a small, friendly and committed team of staff working mainly with young people from an inner city area and based in London's Green Belt, then look no further.

The Bushey Residential and Holiday Centre provides facilities for groups in Lambeth who wish to organise residential periods for their projects. The facilities we offer are used by Lambeth Schools, Youth Groups, Social Services etc.

We are looking for an

ACTIVITIES OFFICER

to join the staff team on this project located within the 21 acre Lincolnshire site.

You will be responsible to the Centre Manager for helping to make the stay of all the young people who use the project a memorable experience. You will work alongside full-time staff and during busy periods, several more part-time staff for whom you will be responsible. A majority of the young people who use the project are black, therefore this challenging and rewarding job requires someone with enthusiasm, knowledge and/or experience of work with children and young people from a multi-racial, inner-city area. You will also need organisational ability, a flexible and imaginative approach to work and a current driving licence.

The salary is: £7776 — £8514 inclusive of Outer London Weighting. Our conditions of service are excellent.

The closing date for applications is 27th March 1985.

For a job description and application form, please contact: Paul Morris, Activities Officer, Bushey Residential and Holiday Centre, Bushey Hall Drive, Bushey, Herts WD23 2EP. Tel: Watford (0492) 33841 (24 hour answerphone).

AGE CONCERN

CHORLEY

DEVELOPMENT WORKER

£7,625 per annum

We seek an enthusiastic, confident person to develop a package of voluntary services for mentally ill elderly people and their carers. The project is part of a group home for six elderly people.

For further details and application form, please write to the Secretary, Age Concern Chorley, 21 Gifford Street, Chorley, Lancs. Closing date: 31st April, 1985.

WORK IN LEISURE

PGL offer opportunities to work with children in a wide range of leisure, sports, and educational activities. We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic, and reliable people to join our team.

Details and application form from: PGL Young Associates, 104 St. James Street, London W1A 1JH. Tel: (01-274) 84211.

Jobs 16-20/77. Tel: (01-274) 84211.

Northern Ireland Economic Council

Deputy Research Officer

£10,428-£14,820

The Economic Council is an independent body established by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to advise on economic policy. The Council is chaired by Sir Charles Carter FBA, a respected economist, trade unionist and independent interest.

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Research Officer salary scale £10,428-£14,820 and there is a non-contributory pension scheme.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Northern Ireland Economic Council, Belfast BT2 8BA, or by telephone from Belfast 272 888. Completed application forms must be returned to arrive not later than 29 March 1985.

The Deputy Research Officer salary scale is £10,428-£14,820 and there is a non-contributory pension scheme.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Northern Ireland Economic Council, Belfast BT2 8BA, or by telephone from Belfast 272 888. Completed application forms must be returned to arrive not later than 29 March 1985.

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01-274 84211

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

THE GUARDIAN Wednesday, March 13 1985 19

The Royal Borough of KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (Care Division)

£18,006 — £19,080 incl.

The Council has decided to regroup the Social Services Department into two operational divisions, Community Services and Care, a major change which is designed to improve the co-ordination and responsiveness of the services.

This new post will be responsible for the provision and maintenance of high standards of day care and residential services for both adults and children. This compact Borough challenges the Department to meet an unusual range of needs.

You must have substantial managerial experience in a senior position and be able to demonstrate significant achievements in the provision of cost-effective services to clients. You will be a committed professional (CQSW or CSS) with imagination, the ability to anticipate changes in the needs of a mobile population and the desire to play a key role in the management of integrated services across the department.

Relocation expenses may be payable in approved cases. Interviews will be held on 17th April with informal interviews in the preceding two weeks.

For initial clarification contact Andrew Henderson, Director, or Colin Archer, Deputy Director on 01-937 5464. Ext. 140 or 141.

Application forms and further details are available quoting Ref. G531XT from the Director of Personnel and Management Services, Town Hall, Homerton Street, London W8 7NX. Tel: 01-937 5464. Ext. 285 or 593.

Closing date: 29th March, 1985.

WE ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

Training Supervisor

— Catering (Ref M.78)

Salary: £9,780 — £10,362 pa inc.

Lambeth is an inner-city multi-racial area wherein deprivation and racial disadvantage exists. As part of its training initiatives for the young unemployed Lambeth runs a one-year training scheme in Catering and Food Service Skills under the Youth Training Scheme. We are now seeking a trainer to take over and run the established scheme.

The course is based at the Lambeth Training Centre in central Brixton close to Brixton Tube Station. Each scheme takes up to fifteen trainees for each one-year programme. The trainers are expected to design the training programme recruit trainees and provide teaching and counselling to the young people involved in the scheme.

Experience of the catering and food service industry is essential as well as a detailed knowledge of a wide variety of catering practices and procedures. A background in devising and running teaching or training programmes is essential as the ability to relate to young people.

A City & Guilds 706/1 minimum qualification or equivalent would be desirable.

The Council operates an equal opportunity policy to which the post holder will be expected to show an active and positive commitment and experience of working in a multi-racial environment would be advantageous.

A detailed job description is available on request.

Individuals can apply for job sharing.

Application forms obtainable from the Personnel Officer, Directorate of Management Services, London Borough of Lambeth, 18 Brixton Hill, SW2. Tel: 01-274 7722 Ext. 3020. Closing date 4th April 1985.

As part of Lambeth's Equal Opportunities Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of race, creed, nationality, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

LAMBETH
SERVICES WELL WORTH DEFENDING

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGIST

Salary: £11,652 to £12,273 per annum inclusive.

We need you to be a source of expertise on the development of our service and the care needs of our clients. Throughout the last year we have substantially improved our facilities for mentally handicapped people by opening two new hostels, and an employment service centre, together with completing significant improvements to our existing hostel.

You will have the opportunity to advise, design and implement individual care plans. You will also conduct assessment work with people attending day care projects, residents in our hostels and in the community.

We are seeking someone who can contribute significantly to our projects. You should possess a post-graduate diploma, or a degree in clinical psychology and have a minimum of three years' experience in this or a related field.

Application forms together with an information pack available from Staff Section on 01-748 7620 (24 hour answering service) quoting reference SRH025.

Closing date: 27.3.85.

HOUSING ADVISER

£3,772 — £9,510 inc.

To join our busy Housing Aid Section dealing directly with the public.

You will advise principally private sector tenants on a casework basis and work closely with other housing services in an integrated directorate. There will also be opportunities to develop specialist areas of work and to contribute, as part of a team, to improving the service.

Relevant experience in housing or advice work would be an advantage, and an ability to work under stress essential.

Application forms from London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (Personnel), Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith W6 5JL, telephone 01-741 0904 (24 hour answering service) quoting ref: HAAH.6HAA.9. Closing date: 27.3.85.

Hammersmith & Fulham
An Equal Opportunity Employer

CAMDEN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU SERVICE NEW BUREAU IN CAMDEN TOWN

Are you a skilled advice worker with CAS training?

Would you like to see your ideas on delivery of the CAS service in an inner-London Borough with a multi-racial community tried and tested in a new bureau?

Does working in a small team, operating as a collective appeal?

The bureau has two new full-time posts — one is to develop a community service CAS in conjunction with an existing Bengali-speaking adviser (REF. 1). The other is to establish a service for people housebound through frailty or disability. This post is open to job share (REF. 2). We positively encourage black and ethnic minority advisers to apply for these vacancies. This post falls within Section 38(1)(b) of the Race Relations Act 1976.

If you are anti-racist, committed to social policy work and want to see services maintained and improved, want the CAS to respond to the community and to work closely with community groups and other agencies, are a good communicator, well organised and work well under pressure — we want to hear from you. You will be joining an expanding CAS service, with over 60 paid staff and a supportive management team. The service receives substantial grant aid from Camden Council.

Salary £3,772-£10,362 + supplement of £565.59 pa.

HIGHGATE NEW TOWN CAB (REF. 3)

PART-TIME (3 DAYS)

AFRO-CARIBBEAN/ASIAN/CHINESE

ADVICE WORKER

Do you want part-time work with training?

If you can offer some experience of working with the public, are alert and ready to tackle an interesting but demanding job we can offer sound training for you to become a skilled generalist advice worker able to help people with: social security, housing, employment, consumer, family and personal problems.

You would work in a small support team and share the benefits of an organisation that has 60+ paid staff. The bureau is in a residential, multi-racial community and we want to be part of that community and to help people from ethnic minorities make full use of the CAS service. This post falls within Section 38(1)(b) of the Race Relations Act 1976.

Salary £5,623 pa.

Write for a job description enclosing an A4 SAE, to Linda Sarin at CCAS, 23/21 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SE.

Please give the reference(s) for the post(s) you are interested in.

Closing date: 1.4.85.

Camden CAS Service operates an equal opportunities policy and is committed to increasing under-represented groups in the workforce.

We want someone to help us identify the skills required for tomorrow and to develop them today!

REGIONAL TRAINING OFFICER

WEST & WALES REGION based in BRISTOL

Salary: NJC Spinal Column Points 37-42 (with assessment bar at SC 39).

We require an experienced and creative colleague to develop and maintain a climate of continuous learning for staff, volunteers and community groups by promoting high standards of management, teamwork and practice throughout the region.

Applicants must be committed to service a varied programme of work which aims to pioneer new methods, meet new needs and challenge traditional social work boundaries, often in partnership with statutory agencies. Our present work includes residential and community projects for crime and drug people, intermediate treatment schemes, counselling projects and work with the mentally handicapped.

This is a key post in the Senior Management team in the region and includes responsibility for learning opportunities, staff development, research and information resources and stimulating a dynamic personal strategy. Applicants must have at least five years' post qualifying experience in social/community work or related activity and will be expected to show evidence of innovation in both thought and practice.

The Society is a Christian organisation which seeks in staff a readiness to prove in Christian Faith and Life.

If you would like more details, or to discuss this post, contact Neil Jamieson, Church of England Children's Society, A&F House, Whitby Road, Bristol, BS4 3DF. Tel: (0274) 77577.

Closing date: 9th April, 1985.

The Children's Society

CAMBRIDGE HEALTH AUTHORITY

HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICES

2 PROJECT WORKERS

Action Research with Carers of Elderly People.

Scale 9 Full-time — Salary: £8,744 — £10,739 p.a.

Scale 4 Half-time — Salary: Pro-rata £7,737 — £9,431 p.a.

Applications are invited for the above posts for a two-year project funded by the Health Education Council.

Community Care policies rely heavily on informal carers, i.e. those relatives, friends and neighbours who care for elderly people outside of institutions. This project will study the health education needs of informal carers, develop and test strategies, materials, etc., to meet those needs.

We are looking for people who have a background in one or more of the following areas: health education, community work, action research. Experience in working with, or on behalf of elderly people, would be an advantage. The posts will be based in The Health Education Services, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Further written details and application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Department, Parkside House, Hills Road, Cambridge. Tel: Cambridge (0223) 242641, ext. 255.

For an informal chat please telephone Les Adams, Senior Health Education Officer, Cambridge (0223) 245151, ext. 667.

Closing date for completed applications 28th March, 1985.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGER

The National Ethnic Minority Society is a

disadvantaged and manages a 700-place

Community Programme Agency. We seek an

enthusiastic, enthusiastic, capable person with

management experience, car owner and

driver, to manage the region with its Head

Office at Stratford, Bucks. This is a

Community Programme Agency for 62 weeks

in the first instance. Candidates must be

currently unemployed, drawing state benefit.

Ring Mike Blackburn on 081-726 0299, or

Tanya Pomeroy at P.E.R. Ltd., 9624 17522, for

further details and job description.

WEDNESDAYS

IN THE GUARDIAN

Independence through initiative

Can you lead our team?

Officer-in-Charge,

£10,299 — £11,217 (inclusive).

Downside has everything to offer you in terms of professional challenge and personal responsibility.

This purpose-built hostel, situated in pleasant landscaped surroundings near the centre of Bracknell, provides up to 22 long term and 4 short term placements for the physically handicapped on a group basis.

Our aim is simple. To offer every opportunity for our residents to achieve a high level of personal independence. The facilities are first-class; we even have our own bar, shop and theatre as well as an excellent craft and support therapy service. There are good links with the fieldwork team.

Heading up a team of six officers and a large support staff, you will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the hostel. Supervising, supporting, encouraging and motivating staff and residents alike. It's a key role in our care programme and the potential for further development is considerable.

We are looking for a man or woman with a CSS or CQSW qualification. Someone with residential management experience, lots of initiative and imagination, enthusiasm and well developed leadership skills.

If you are ready to move into a really responsible management role you will find that Downside is just what you are looking for. Accommodation may be available.

If you would like to hear more, contact George Ogden or Margaret Fettes on Bracknell 629011. For application form and job description, please contact Personnel Section, Fitzwilliam House, Skimped Hill Lane, Bracknell, Berks.

Closing date: 1st April, 1985.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Royal County of Berkshire

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

Manager — Policy & Co-ordination Unit

£16,290 — £18,354 (incl.)

Camden is seeking a person with imagination and enthusiasm to manage a small high powered unit providing a resource for the Chief Executive and leading Members in the investigation and analysis of policy issues and the implementation of council policy decisions.

You will be responsible to the Chief Executive and will work closely with leading Members and Chief Officers in resolving the important and sensitive issues which face an inner city authority in the current financial climate.

A local government background would be useful but more important is a creative approach to problem solving and the ability to communicate effectively.

Informal enquiries to the Chief Executive, on 01-278 4444 extension 2002.

Application form and further details from, and to be returned to: Controller of Personnel Services, Town Hall, Euston Road, NW1 2RU or telephone 01-278 4444 extension 2757 quoting ref no 1A/304/G. Closing date 1st April 1985.

Camden Services

equal opportunity employer

Applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, with equal opportunities for women, black/ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, sexual orientation and criminal conviction. All posts are open for job-sharing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

Policy Opportunities for Career/Management Analysts

Team Leader £15,042 to £16,085 — Ref 13/900

Senior Analyst £14,025 to £14,888 — Ref 13/904

Two posts are available in a small multi-disciplinary team of officers working directly to the Leader, Chief Executive, and to Performance Review Committee and undertaking review of policies, management practice, and organisational structures in all departments. The Unit has recently been restructured and bright, highly motivated officers are sought to make a new contribution to the Unit's work programme.

For the Team Leader post you must have degree level or equivalent qualifications together with experience in policy analysis, management review, preferably in a political environment.

For the Senior Analyst post a similar qualification is required, but experience in a central department of a Local Authority, although preferable, is not necessary. Any discipline will be considered, but applicants must have some specialist skill appropriate to the Unit's work.

If you want a challenge and enjoy working under pressure, you should apply for these jobs.

The City Council's recruitment incentive scheme will be available to suitable applicants. Full time is worked. Informal enquiries to Mr B. Epps on 01-258 2208 or Mr J. Bell on 01-258 2292.

Convening will be by day.

Candidates may obtain application forms (returnable by April 1, 1985) and further particulars from Personnel Section, Chief Executive's Department, Council House, Birmingham B1 1RS.

As Equal Opportunity Employer.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PRINCIPAL OFFICER

Ref no: SS7/198/T3

(Adult Residential & Day Care Services)

Avon House North, Bristol

Salary: PO (L) £14,358-£15,357

The quality of life for people in an old people's home, together with the provision of a wide range of day care and respite facilities and the development of better services in the community for the mentally handicapped are major issues for both members and officers of Avon County Council.

We are looking for a dynamic and committed Social Services Manager to help us make these aspirations a reality.

Avon has demonstrated that it is possible to make major developments in enhancing and modernising services through constant monitoring and review and by the re-allocation of existing finance.

This post has a major role within the Department and will be responsible for the management of staff and services of approximately 150 residential and day care units.

Applicants should possess managerial experience in a social services environment and must demonstrate a commitment to an integrated approach to service delivery. A relevant management qualification is essential and preference will be given to candidates with qualifications also applicable to social service settings.

Experience of staff management at a senior level, together with the ability to demonstrate knowledge of the management of residential and day care establishments and planning activities is also essential.

For informal discussion contact Mr Richard Evans, Assistant Director — Residential & Day Care, Tel: Bristol 290777 ext 375. Further details and application form, returnable by 8th April 1985, from Director of Personnel (Tel: Bristol 298585 — Answerphone on this number after office hours), PO Box 270, Avon House, The Haymarket, Bristol, BS99 7HE.

Avon is an equal opportunities employer. Please quote reference number.

Avon COUNTY COUNCIL

Breaking the Mould of Unemployment

PROJECT DIRECTOR

A recently formed Project in the Industrial North for unemployed men and women on the role who give their time and abilities without payment.

its working hypothesis is:

If people who can find no one to employ them are appropriately supported in the Project, they can develop skills and capabilities which contribute to their own growth as they work in their local community setting, and will begin to demonstrate that paid employment is not central to a life of well-being.

The Project Centre is a large building with restaurants and theatre, and lets space to entrepreneurs to start up their own businesses. It is sponsored by Christian interest, and initial funding is from voluntary sources.

The successful candidate will see the Project in terms of Christian Mission: identify with the situation of unemployed people; be available to others so they can decide what to do and how to use their resources and will be sensitive to unjust situations and ready to challenge social and political assumptions.

He/she will have experience of working in human service agencies, training skills and a track record of handling business affairs successfully. He/she will be accountable to the Board and affairs staff as a team. The post is paid in line with the level of responsibilities and range of experience (up to £18,000).

Further details including application form to be returned by 15th April 1985: Catherine Lynch, The Grubb Institute, Cloudestey Street, London N1 0HU. Tel: 01-278 8061.

Caring for Handicapped People

Warden £8772-£9510

The Rockall Day Centre in Battersea provides 45 places for physically handicapped adults and has a warm, accepting atmosphere. To continue this approach and develop the rehabilitative aspect of the centre's work, we are seeking a new leader for the staff team. Providing the necessary support, direction and supervision will require appropriate experience and a relevant qualification, i.e. C.Q.S.W., C.S.S. or O.T.

For further details please contact Colin Meadows, Care Services Manager, on 01-871 6244.

Application forms from: Director of Social Services, Town Hall, London SW18 2PU. Tel: 01-871 6250. Please quote reference no. TG1777.

Closing date: 29th March 1985.

Wandsworth

an equal opportunity employer

All applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the job irrespective of race, sex, marital status, sexual orientation or responsibility for children or dependants.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING

Divisional Head

(Valuation and Estates)

£19,152 — £20,680 p.a. inc.

Newham is a multi racial outer London Borough which exhibits all the characteristics and challenges of the inner city. Despite targets and penalties the present time is one of activity and change with several major developments now under way. Effective management of the Council's investment in land and buildings is a high priority and creates an important varied and challenging workload for the Council's valuation service.

The Valuation and Estates Division is currently located within the Department of Engineering and Surveying. The Division manages and controls one of the largest industrial and commercial estates in London and plays a key role in advising on the Council's corporate estate as a whole. The Division is at present organised in three main sections — Acquisition, Management and Development but the new Divisional Head will be expected to review its organisation and level of service to the Council.

The Divisional Head is expected to act as the Council's main professional and policy adviser in all matters of valuation and estate management. In particular this includes advice on all matters affecting the development of commercial and industrial property in the context of the Council's Economic Development policies.

The successful applicant should be suitably professionally qualified and should have:

- a detailed and varied experience of all aspects of valuation work in both public and private sectors and a practical ability to apply this experience to meeting the Council's objectives and policies.
- fair in responding to and taking the initiatives in all valuation matters under great pressure.
- first class managerial ability in motivating, organising and leading staff.
- an ability to conceptualise the Council's corporate estate as an entity and contribute to its management as such.
- an understanding of the close relationship between the planning and valuation services of the Council.
- an interest in and experience in the way the Council's Valuer can contribute to the Council's employment, promotion and general policies.

Applicants will also be expected to have a high degree of personal commitment to work: a proven track record on dealing with inner city problems; an understanding of the way in which the valuation service can help to promote equality and an ability to respond effectively, quickly and sensitively to local needs and demands.

Essentially the Council is seeking a first class valuer who can use the broadest possible range of valuation and management skills to meet the Council's objectives. To facilitate this process and emphasise the importance of this post to the Council the reporting line of the Council's valuer is at present under review.

Benefits include a lump sum car allowance payment of £1,272 (included in the salary quoted above) and in appropriate cases, subsistence, home travel allowance, and a grant of up to £1,000 towards legal and related costs in connection with house purchase.

For an informal discussion please contact G.R. Iley, Director of Engineering and Surveying on Telephone No. 01-472 1430. Ext. 3501 once you have received the job details.

For an application form and further particulars please write to the Chief Executive's Department, Management Services Division, Town Hall, East Ham, E6 2EP, or telephone 01-471 9619 (24 hour answering service). Please quote Reference AS2715.

between 6-8 pm

MARTIN WALKER reports from Moscow on the Soviet Union after Chernenko, the first of three articles

The Red Tsar with limitless horizons

GORBACHEV'S & RUSSIA

AS MIKHAIL Gorbachev looks out across Red Square at today's funeral ceremony, he will know, as every Russian knows in the bones, that the only governments which have made this country function have been ruthless, driving and suspicious.

In the days of Ivan the Terrible, there was a secret police force called the oprichnina, a black-bered band of the Tsar's trusted henchmen, part bodyguard, part KGB, and part embryo of a professional bureaucracy. Their purge of the Russian nobility and gentry to assure Ivan's grip on power cost thousands of lives. It was a minor purge by Stalin's standards, but the Tsars who followed Ivan built upon the model he had bequeathed to them.

The sheer physical size of the country has always been the main problem of the men who rule from Moscow. It still takes eight days to cross the country on the

trans-Siberian railway. And, despite Russian domination, the Soviet Union is still not a Russian speaking country. In a Moscow bookstore you can buy books in Kazakh, in Georgian, in Uzbek and Lithuanian. There are regiments in the army whose knowledge of Russian is limited to a handful of basic orders and, on current demographic trends, by the end of the decade one Red Army conscript in three is likely to be a Muslim.

The distances impose one vital and costly handicap on the Soviet economy. Its raw materials are in the East, in the lonely wastes of Siberia, whereas its industries and its urban markets are in the West and the South. The USSR still has the world's fastest-growing rail network, and it is still not growing fast enough, and each new harsh winter puts the engineers' plans further behind.

The vast frozen tracts of Siberia, and the dry deserts of Kazakhstan and the subtropical vineyards of Georgia were all conquered for the Russians by successive generations of absolute Tsars.

Absolutism is as constant a factor in Russian history. But the absolutism is not necessarily aggressive. It began, and continued, as prerequisite of national defence.

The Tsars most revered in the Soviet canon are those who fought off the invaders. Ivan the Terrible finally broke the Mongol yoke. Peter the Great fought off the Swedes, and Alexander without Napoleon's attack on Moscow.

Perhaps because of these regular invasions and occupations — memories are still bitterly fresh about Hitler's war which killed 20 million Russians — Russians know war as something that happens on their soil. The British and the Americans tend to think of wars as things that happen overseas. The Russians also know that the only way to avoid a new stopped invasion is under the ruthless leadership of a single, centralised authority.

This centralised authority has also been the bulwark against the chaos of Russian anarchy, whether peasant revolt, food riots, or the

rising of one or other of the minority nations, that have been swept into the Russian fold once the invaders withdrew, exhausted.

This is the tradition that Mikhail Gorbachev inherits, and from his view point, it must look like an opportunity as well as a problem. The centralised state is secure, and the handful of dissidents apart, not unpopular. In the KGB he has an efficient secret police, and in the Communist Party with its 17 million members, a potentially superb instrument for administering this huge and disparate land from one centre. Party membership, with the odd exception in the Baltic states, is remarkably evenly spread across the country and across the age groups, after the deliberate policy of expanding membership under Brezhnev.

Through the party Gorbachev has the best opportunity to act. He has been lucky in his timing, since later this year a new party congress will give him the chance to remould the Central Committee to his liking, just as he spent his last

three years in Moscow supervising the top appointments to the regional party committees.

But in his first speech since his election to supreme power, he has spoken of the need to widen the party's role down at the grass roots of Russian society. The target for party membership seems to be one member for every 10 employed people, and a cynic would say that properly galvanised and motivated, the party members could become the sergeants and corporals of the quasi-military drive for economic growth which he has demanded.

But again he faces Russian inertia, that stolid endurance which has been the saving of Russia's rulers in times of crisis, and their bane in times of peace. Other Soviet rulers have tried to use the party in this way, and only Stalin ever made it work — at horrendous price.

But Gorbachev has a relatively new strength. He is probably the first Soviet leader who understands the importance of public opinion, who has made a point of

being a superb television performer, and who has taken considerable care with his image, at home and overseas, as Britain discovered last December.

Gorbachev has already won the support of the large and long-frustrated managerial and technocratic class with his reputation as a reformer and his almost Thatcher-like speeches on giving management the right to manage. As a young and charismatic figure, and a Moscow university graduate with a huge and well-placed network of old college chums, he is known among the intellectuals of his generation as one of them. These are the people already speaking fanatically of a new Kennedyesque camelot in Moscow, in the expectation that Gorbachev's fellow graduates will share in it.

That leaves the masses — the workers and people of Russia who have so long suffered and have rarely if ever been heard. Some of them have been hankering after a new strong man for years, if the portraits of Stalin in truck windscreens are any

thing to go by. Many, doubtless, will have pricked up their ears when Gorbachev spoke of incentives in their pay packets. More will recall the sudden crackdown of discipline when Gorbachev's patron, Yuri Andropov took over and sent the police to scour out the bars and bath houses in working hours.

Last November, Gorbachev gave a major speech in which he said that the new industrial revolution which the USSR faced would need the same political commitment and the same national drive that had accompanied the first five-year plans of the 1930s. There is hardly a Russian alive who forgets precisely what kind of political commitment Stalin brought to that period. It may have been just a phase to win the support of the old hardliners, or it may have been a warning. In any event, few Soviet citizens seem in any doubt that 54-year-old Gorbachev's absolutism is unlikely to be moderated by death until the year 2000 or later.

NEXT: Welfare and the KGB.

How the Alliance occupies Tory ground in the three party polling game



Peter Jenkins

A RECENT study of the British electoral system has received keen attention at Conservative Central Office. The author's name is Gordon Reece. No, I do not mean the engaging cigar-smoking, champagne-drinking Gordon Reece who came to fame as the Prime Minister's media masseur and who for the moment is acting as the Conservative Party's director of press and communications. As Mark Twain said when informed that Homer had written "Homer": "It must put an awful burden on the rates."

Reece, in his booklet *Voter Representation* (£1.00), has constructed a model for predicting the outcomes of a three or multi-party system to replace the old Mackenzie-Swinger model. It is quite simple and essentially consists of proportionally distributing the votes lost by one party among the others. Applied to recent elections it has proved remarkably accurate.

The Bristol model produces three general conclusions: — the party with the largest share of votes does not necessarily win the most seats; — the SDP-Liberal Alliance is, vote for vote, a greater threat to the Conservatives than the Labour Party; — the threshold at which each party would be better off under proportional representation is for Labour between 22 and 24 per cent of votes cast but for the Alliance between 24 and 28 per cent.

We all knew, of course, that the Labour vote is highly concentrated, and therefore, as Dr Reece puts it, "insulated against disaster." Come what may the Labour Party will not have many fewer than 150 seats in the House of Commons for as long as the present electoral system applies. We also knew that the support of the Alliance is as thinly spread across the land as the Labour

vote is concentrated with the result we saw in 1983.

The importance of Reece's study lies in the calculations he has made of the consequences of these disproportionalities for the Conservative Party. He shows how any advance by the Alliance is at the expense chiefly of the Conservative Party. For example, if the Alliance won 32 per cent of the vote — perfectly possible following its 25 per cent last time — Labour would need only 36.9 per cent to form a majority government. Labour's average standing in four recent polls is 33.7 per cent. Reece goes on to demonstrate that provided Labour can hold to around 23 per cent of the vote — which is about the equivalent of the French Communist Party in the Sixties — it will remain the second largest party at Westminster. The Alliance could only form a government by wiping out the Conservatives. This is because the Conservatives and the Alliance are fighting for the same ground and if Labour was to win a majority of 325 seats the other could not win more than 125.

The prospect of the Alliance destroying the Conservative Party does not seem a very real one. The Conservative Party has a knack of survival. Much more real is the possibility of the Alliance denying the Conservatives a parliamentary majority or putting in a Labour Government on a minority of the popular vote. Reece shows that if Labour led Conservatives by 37 to 29 with the Alliance scoring 32 per cent there would be a comfortable Labour majority. But if the Conservatives were ahead of Labour by the same margin with the Alliance again scoring 32 per cent, the Conservatives would be the largest party in a hung Parliament. If the two major parties ran neck and neck with the Alliance at 32 per cent Labour would be the largest party in the hung parliament.

In working out these scenarios Reece makes no political assumptions. For example, he does not discuss what might be the consequence of the opinion polls showing Labour in third place over a period of time. In those circumstances the "wasted vote" argument might start to cut the other way and Labour could find itself, nationally, in a tactical squeeze. A recent study by the Left-wing ginger group, the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, which projected last year's Gallup findings on the basis of what happened at the same stages of past parliaments came up with the astonishing general election result: Conservatives 414, Labour 133, Alliance 83.

At 22 per cent of the vote (to the Alliance's 32 and the Tories 43) Labour is right down at Reece's threshold but the Tories are well ahead, their nearest rival in votes. The Alliance comes a poor third in seats.

However, these exciting and extreme scenarios are probably best forgotten. What cannot be escaped is the fact that the Alliance first threatens the Conservative Party. At the 1983 General Election it ran second to the Tories in 263 seats but to Labour in only 49. Reece's model also demonstrates the psychological improbability of the Alliance replacing Labour as the party of the Left. It is commonly assumed that the Conservatives (with only 43.5 per cent in 1983) owe their predominance to the split on the Left. But that is to assume that in the absence of the Alliance the Labour Party would win seats in the south and the west. If the Alliance is the only effective opponent in the southern bastions of Conservatism

(while it makes no inroads into Labour's northern strongholds) then the conclusion has to be that the split on the Left is more electorally damaging to the Conservatives than it is to Labour.

This realisation, already dawning at the Central Office, may become more general in the coming months. Dr David Owen is himself well aware of the danger of promoting a Labour government and expects the Tories to become more alert to it. The opinion polls in February, which averaged about four points on last November, Labour fractionally up by 1.2 per cent and the Alliance up by 4.3. A different batch of more recent polls taken as the miners' strike came to its end gave Labour a couple of extra points at the expense of the Alliance, although the Alliance may be benefiting more than Labour from the rise in the Government's mid-term popularity, there is no conclusive trend at this stage.

Let us imagine, however, that the Alliance does well in next May's local government elections which take place in the counties of England and Wales. They will be fought on the Alliance's best ground, the territory in which it scored most of its General Election seconds. In terms of votes cast Labour might well finish in third place. Let us also imagine that the polls show the Alliance on an upward trend. A by-election or two and Tory alarm would set in. The Reece scenarios would start to look all too real.

Already, fears of lost seats to the Alliance is a factor in the muted use of the Conservative Party at Westminster. MPs want to see a Budget next week which really does something to bring down unemployment. They don't want to see a Budget which contains the kind of "radical" tax reforms which would drive their supporters into the arms of the Alliance. They have read the opinion polls which show that the public does not regard tax cuts as the be all, end all of economic policy. Indeed, the posture of the Alliance — if voters know what it is — is close to what voters think and want.

If the Alliance looks as if it is advancing not only will Conservative MPs take fright for their seats but industry and the City will begin to address the spectre of a Labour government by default. This will add to the pressure for more consensual economic and social policies and, probably, revive discussion of electoral reform. And, of course, these perceptions will feed back into the behaviour of the electorate in ways which we can only guess.

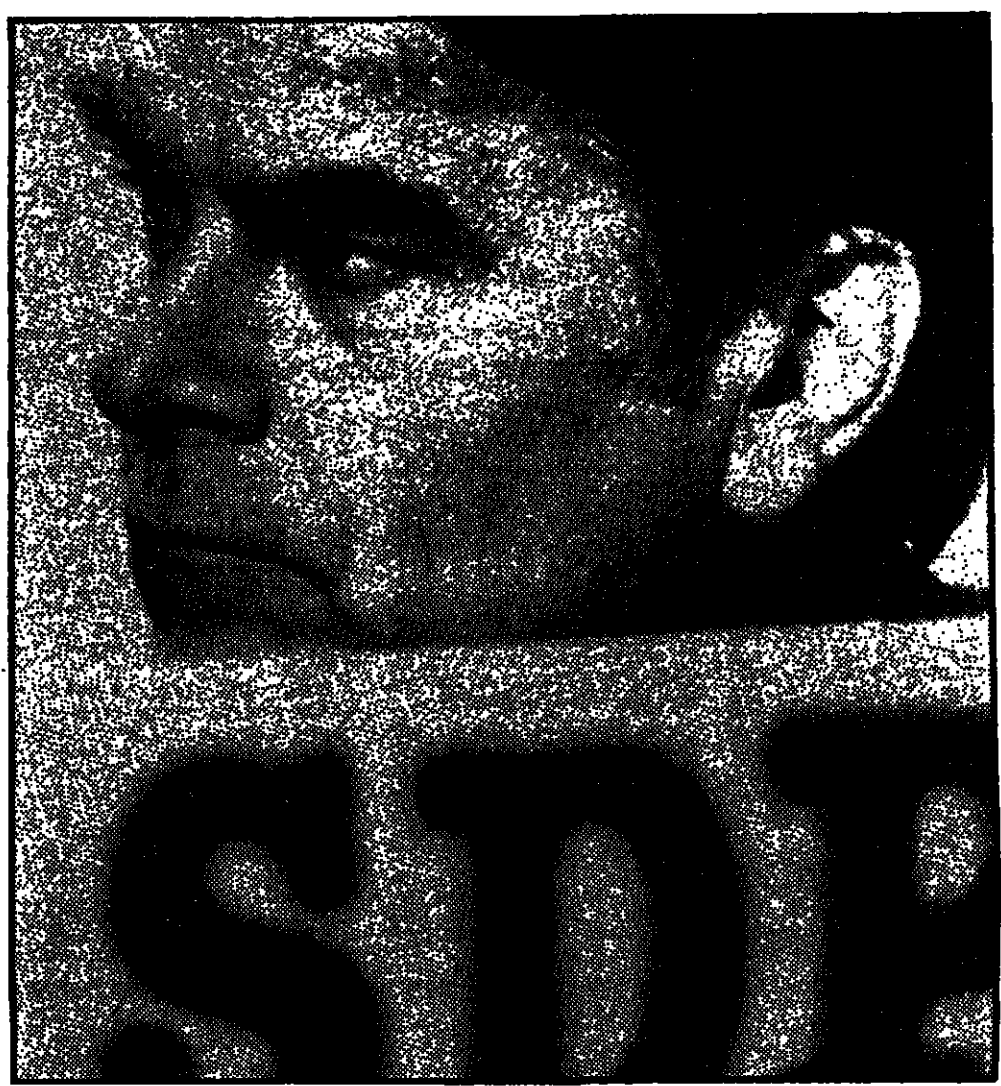
Ministers and party managers spend a good deal of time debating the question who is the real enemy and what to do about it. A good few — probably the majority of influential figures — would be happy enough to see the Alliance replace Labour as a non-socialist opposition. Unfortunately, the Alliance could only be promoted at the expense of Tory seats and therefore the speculation is academic; there is no strategic alternative to fighting the Alliance as the threat.

Whether it is Labour or the Alliance that makes little difference. It is the first threat in most Conservative seats. Some party tacticians argue for an all out attack on the Alliance, and for driving wedges between the "two Davids" while others expound the theory that the votes will be won by "that party which most opposes Labour." Again it probably makes little difference.

The Prime Minister will most probably rely on her own brand of populism continuing to have enough cross party appeal to muster a third winning plurality in 1987. The Government's popularity continues to be more remarkable than its unpopularity at this stage of the parliament. Nevertheless, the present mood could represent something more than mid-term dissatisfaction, the stuff of past by-election sensations. The spirit of the times could be beginning to move against the Thatcherites as poverty is rediscovered and social conscience revives.

The Bristol model highlights the perils for the Conservative Party presented by the SDP-Liberal Alliance. Another way of looking at the current political situation is to imagine the kind of opinion poll lead the Labour Party would be enjoying if united and representing the electorate with a progressive non-socialist and patriotic alternative to "Thatcherism."

David Owen: One half of a working alliance



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DIARY

LABOUR front-bencher George Foulkes has been invited by a junior minister at the Department of Trade to submit all the evidence for his contention that the Deming plan should hold a formal inquiry into the Gomba group of companies, owned by the Ugandan Asian businessman Mr Abdul Shamji.

Mr Foulkes is still upset at the way Gomba took over Stonefield Vehicles in his constituency in 1981 and then closed it, sacking about 90 people, so he is enthusiastically preparing a dossier. He says he's also submitting his concerns about Gomba's current bid to take control of Wembley Stadium and the company's activities in Jersey.

Gomba is currently enmeshed in a web of legal actions. The liquidator of Stonefield Vehicles is in dispute with Mr Shamji over the price paid for that company, and the Scottish Development Agency says he owed them rent. There is another court case about whether people who sold shares in Wembley to Gomba actually had the right to do so.

The controversy over Gomba's activities threatens to produce some embarrassment for the Government. Mr Shamji is a contributor to Tory party funds, and a personal friend of Mr Norman Tebbit. He has had several meetings with the Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher.

WELL done John Browne, the parachuting ex-Guardsman who is Tory MP for Winchester. He was the one who escorted Mr Gorbachev on his recent visit to Britain — Stalin's old office, British Museum, that sort of thing — and then deluged broadcasting newscasters with invitations to interview him. Yesterday he took gold on the Today programme on Radio 4 and rattled on to John Timponson about the new Russian leader's Western-style charisma. Thus, no doubt, are media persons made.

GEMS akin to Mr Browne's fell from the tips of two upper crust secretaries chatting about Soviet ceremonial in the Strangers' Bar at the Commons. "With Communists presidents dying every two years," chirped one. "It must put an awful burden on the rates."

HUGH Elwell, an expert on private medical care at the Right-wing Centre for Policy Studies, bought Edwina Currie MP a nice dinner and asked her advice — one of her many incarnations is as a member of the Commons select committee on social services. When he contacted her for more information, he was a bit taken aback to receive a letter saying she charged £25 an hour for consultations. Her explanation is that MPs cannot miss the duties of other important MPs' duties to advise people for nothing. And there are no exceptions for people on her own side, either.

THE enemies of cruise missiles, now digging in for a long campaign at Moleston, can rest assured that the police are putting a long perspective on things too. Parish councils in Northamptonshire are being lobbied by their local bobbies, home at last from Greenham and the confields, that they now have instructions to be ready at short notice to go to the aid of Cambridgeshire Police for the next four years. Many of them apparently regard the prospect with dismay.

HIT of a cock-up at the Daily Express when the editor, Larry Lamb, sacked Chris Wilson, editor of the famous William Hickey gossip column.

Normally heads of department get two years pay when the axe sinks between their shoulder blades, but Wilson had a funny contract which only gave him a year and nine months. The National Union of Journalists went into indefinite session to back Wilson, and the paper lost a tenth before the management conceded the extra three months. Lord Matthews has recently given Lamb carte blanche to hire and fire in the hope of improving the paper, but this opening stroke was less than deft.

THE Communist world also got its wires crossed over Mr Chernenko's death. While Kremlinologists dwell significantly on the absence of the traditional black-bordered picture of him on the front page of Pravda, the People's Daily in Peking cheerfully gave him the worst front page, black-bordered, "great loss to the Soviet people."

Stephen Cook

HELENA KENNEDY knew, when she took on the co-defence of Irishman Thomas Quigley, convicted last week on terrorist bombing charges, that her task was far greater than it would be in most criminal trials.

And as she and partner Mike Mansfield, who also headed the defence, heard that their client had been given a 35-year sentence, on charges which included the Chelsea barracks murders, the bombing of bomb disposal expert Kenneth Howarth and the bombing of Sir Michael Havers's home, she explained: "In a case like this which is surrounded by the emotional, angry, political feelings which Irish crimes engender, the chances of getting a jury to be completely dispassionate and to clear their minds of the atmosphere which exists round the Irish question, is not easy."

"And while this case has been going on there have been 18 killings in the north of Ireland and obviously that does stir up emotion and anger against people seen to be somehow connected. How can you expect a jury not to be touched by this and by the great public desire for retribution?"

"I could be accused of sour grapes talking like this, but that is not right. I feel that we fought hard and presented a good defence — indeed Quigley had a very good alibi and the jury were out for three days. And if this had been an ordinary crime I truly believe the jury might well have acquitted."

"But although, yes, I do feel upset on behalf of my clients in this particular case, I also think it brings up, yet again, the whole issue of how far civil liberties exist for people in political cases and cases where there is a lot of public feeling involved."

It is a subject on which she talks passionately, and while plenty of lawyers would be keener to dissociate themselves from such trials, than to be involved in pleading the cause of justice on behalf of defendants who stand trial for crimes which arouse deep public abhorrence, Helena has built her legal practice around such situations.

She explains: "My interest in the law has always been civil liberties, providing help to those who might otherwise not get it, or who I see as being in some way disadvantaged when it comes to getting a fair trial. By this I mean cases where public feelings run high, it can be race, sexuality, politics, and if, because of the surrounding circumstances, the jury feel antagonistic to the defendants before they have weighed the evidence, then clearly there is a greater chance than usual of a miscarriage of justice."

"I believe that if our system of law is to mean anything, then absolutely everyone must have the chance of a genuinely fair trial and, of course, inte-

'If this had been an ordinary crime I truly believe the jury might well have acquitted,' says Helena Kennedy, the lawyer who co-defended Thomas Quigley, convicted last week of terrorist bombing charges. Angela Neustatter talked to her about the trial and her habit of taking the cases her colleagues try to avoid

Defence tactics

Helena Kennedy — picture by Martin Argles

gral to that is good and strong representation. Yet although in theory that should happen automatically, because all lawyers are supposed to be available to anyone, in fact lawyers who do not want to do cases find a way of not being available.

"For example, there are a number, I know, who do not want to do Irish work and when the Price Sisters were on trial, the general word at the bar was that silk went to ground."

Seated on a sofa in her Bloomsbury flat, she delivers these ideas with eloquent fluency, pausing from time to time to reflect that what she has said is precisely what she means. She is a small, finely built, pretty woman with a voice which remains soft until raised in emphasis, and she has a gutsy, infectious laugh.

She chose to do law after getting involved in student politics at university and she graduated at the remarkably young age of 21. She says that it was her own Scottish working class background where she saw clearly "that certain people are at the bottom of the heap and don't do as well as those with money and power," which moulded her own left wing and libertarian beliefs.

Within two years she and a group of other young radical lawyers had set up their own chambers — a move which caused many seasoned eyebrows to rise. She explains: "We were making a stand on equal opportunities with an equal division of men and women and the women were all committed feminists and that in itself was unusual. Also we were all very young and green and we

didn't have an experienced senior lawyer to 'guide' us."

Last year Helena, 34, left that set of chambers — which has successfully grown to 20 members — to form a new set with Michael Mansfield, a lawyer friend with very similar ideas to her own. This time the commitment is to racial and sexual equality and they have a mix of senior and junior black lawyers, women and men and they are known, Helena says with a wry laugh, as "the A-team of civil liberties lawyers."

She sees a similarity between the blanket prejudice which can exist towards the Irish — "people very often do not understand the complexity of different ideas and attitudes which exist among the Irish; they are just judged as a problem" — and black people. Since the early

days when she did a lot of law centre work and realised how many young blacks were arrested, she has been enthusiastic to take on cases where racism is an issue.

She says: "I've done a channel of race work — I did the Bradford 12 trial not so long ago where a group of Asians were defending their community from National Front attacks and they were all acquitted, but it was a hard fight and there was a lot of unpleasant feeling around that trial. I also did the Newham Eight, a similar case, and although not all the defendants were acquitted, I was able to expose clearly racism in policing practice in the area."

"Of course doing this involves a lot of homework, it is more work than a straightforward criminal trial. For

example, I had to liaise through solicitors with organisations monitoring racial attacks, and I got information which made it possible to carefully cross examine the police about how much investigation of the defendants' complaints about attack and harassment actually took place."

Yet the case she found hardest to cover was not political, but where a man was accused of brutally beating his partner's child. Helena, who had recently given birth to her own son, Kier, experienced "an appalling pain" hearing the evidence of what had happened to the child.

She says: "I was defending the mother who had been torn between her lover and her child and had not reported what was happen-

ing. There was no way I could identify with that dilemma and I found it really traumatic going through the case. And yet because I found it so hard I felt even more compelled to do it well."

But doesn't such a situation present a moral dilemma if the defence is good enough that the accused are acquitted, isn't there a real risk that the offence may be committed again?

She replied: "As a defence barrister it is not ultimately my role to make that kind of judgment. If I began to do so I couldn't do my job properly, and juries don't acquit because of the defence's eloquence but because the evidence is not good enough."

She also believes that the increasing number of women graduating in law, and taking on criminal cases, is important. She explains: "On the one hand they have changed the style of advocacy very much for the better. I think where men tended to specialise in pomp and display, women have been far more concerned with communication, in a lower key way, with facts. And, like naturalism in the theatre, that has caught on and become the popular way now."

"And on the other side women lawyers are important in attacking the way women are treated. There has long been the belief that for a female defendant to be treated benignly she must be shown to be mad or sad — suffering from pre-menstrual depression, menopausal problems, just had an abortion, just had a baby, husband left her, and so on. Other words there must be an area of female weakness."

"And when women have not conformed to this stereotype but have been clearly independent minded, have made choices, in my experience they are often treated very harshly." To make the point she describes the case of a very disturbed lesbian who after a long period of unhappiness and harassment murdered her lover in a classic case of "crime passionnel". She got life. Whereas the father who recently murdered his three daughters to punish his wife for running off with another man got six years.

She has been, unarguably, successful so far. But has being so openly political mitigated against her at all? She ponders the question and says: "I can only say that where the anarchist trial where all the defendants were acquitted, when the judge was clearly furious and yes, I think he did blame my politics."

"But in general I think being honestly who I am, not disguising my beliefs, has helped me become successful. The background reading I have done from interest is often relevant and informs the way I approach a case. And I have never been asked to defend a fascist."

Msprint

ETTY: A Diary 1941-48 (Triad Granada £2.50). The diary of Etty Hillesum, a young Jewish girl living in Amsterdam during the war, brims over with high strung emotion. But to begin with, it is not the plight of the Jews in occupied Europe which inspire her scribbles. Rather, like any adolescent's diary, (though Etty, pen name of Etty Hillesum, was 27) it is concerned with the inner self.

She visits the famous psychoanalyst, disciple of Jung, Julius Spier, whose therapy — wrestling with his lady patients — strikes even Etty as "unorthodox". And when at one point he is groaning on top of her, for just a moment, and made the oldest convulsive movement in the world, then the lowest of thoughts roared up in me like a tsunami. "A funny way of treating patients you have, you get your pleasure out of it and you get paid for it as well."

But Etty falls in love with the amorous Spier who, compared to her 62-year-old lover Hans, seems youthful at 55. She becomes his secretary and, after the dictation, his lover.

At first the unrelenting solipsism of these diaries overwhelms and numbs. One looks at the humdrum details which fill Virginia Woolf's day — the route of a London bus, the price of a new hat. But gradually Etty's struggle for self-expression becomes lighter, the finer nuances of experience are caught and intelligently reflected upon.

There is humour, too: Etty's cry of "come on my girl!" as she tries to goad herself into writing, or her rousing herself from a bout of over-eating. She is spiritually uplifted by Rilke, St. Augustine and Dostoevsky — although the latter takes her two years to finish.

Slowly, the reality of Nazism impinges on Etty but her uncontainable love is not diminished. Rather, it leaps out even more fiercely towards her fellow victims and, when her spiritual need is greatest, towards God. Her journal becomes a kind of triumph even though in September 1943 she herself was transported into Poland and, as a one line epitaph tells us, in November 1945 Etty Hillesum died in Auschwitz.

In the Bronx, during the Great Depression, toddlers ran round with names like Leon Trotsky Blume and Vladimir Lenin Jones. Capitalism was tottering and as the families sought comfort in religion, sleep and starvation, communism was a force to be reckoned with.

Rose Chernin also joined the Party. She organised rent strikes in the tenements and "We Want Milk" demonstrations among the women with their pushchairs and prams. She set up Communist cooperatives and unemployment councils, and she was successful.

In *In My Mother's House*, (Virago Press, £10.95 hardback, £4.95 paperback) Rose's daughter Kim Chernin tells her mother's story. How, from a shtetl among the peasants in Tsarist Russia, Rose's Jewish family emigrated to the USA and there, clawing her way to an education, she grew up to be a brilliant young woman. At 18 she lived an independent life in New York. She frequented the Russian Club and dabbled in the growing trade unionism; her lovers were artists and young socialists.

Thirty years later during the McCarthy era, Rose Chernin was gaoled as a subversive foreigner, but the government were unable to produce enough evidence to revoke her American citizenship.

Kim also tells her own story of what it was like to have a famous Red for a mother during the McCarthy witch-hunts. She swings from being a rebellious teenager who was proud of her mother and befriended the Mexicans and blacks in class, to keeping quiet about her mother's radicalism, dating the well-heeled sons of the Establishment, and aspiring to the preppy social clubs in school.

More than a biography of Rose Chernin, this book is a wonderful account of a mother and daughter relationship. The stories she and her mother have to tell are interspersed with snapshots of their present-day meetings and conversations, witnessed by a third generation, the granddaughter, Reminiscence of Jean-Pierre Lefebvre's method in the film *Les fleurs Sauvages*. Kim Chernin conveys the wavering intimacy, the small sense of having said too much, the battles of will, and the hanked up love behind their imperfect communication.

It is an excellent book, subtle and moving, yet also an important document about political ideology.

Dorothy Stannard

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Whatever happened to Baby Jane?

AMERICAN DIARY

Linda Blandford

Palm Beach, Florida
EVERY AGE has its mythic figures. The few who come to stand for its particular achievements and aspirations. To be frank, that Leona Helmsley has come to represent the New York mood these days is nothing but certain. New Yorkers want to boast about.

Her face and ample cleavage appear weekly in the glossier advertising columns. "It's the only Palace in the world where the Queen stands guard," reads the copy line for the Helmsley Palace Hotel. And there on the grand staircase, "aglow in gold and crystal," the advertisement again, stands Queen Leona in red evening gown with a plunging sequined black bodice, hands raised in some variety of royal nightgown salute, with what must be either a tie or a crown in her raven black hair.

Thus goes the eighties in New York. It's an odd way to run a hotel. Picture it — the formality, the magpie glitter and garishness and also the notion that the wife of one of New York's richest property owners, Harry Helmsley, now in his dotting old age, wants only to be associated with ostentatious luxury and tough ambition. Well, there we are.

What brings the energetic Mrs Helmsley ever more vividly to mind, is the sight in Palm Beach of so many such figures from other ages. It is strange to recognise the banished celebrities, forgotten now, and to see what because of them, the ones they are in their anonymity. They can be watched window shopping on Worth Avenue — perhaps the most lavish of all such streets. They peek at the cabin trunk in Vuitton, the French provincial quilted elephant in Pierre Dene, the bangles in Cartier or Hermes. Next to Palm Beach's Worth Avenue, Bond Street is but Brixton. Who would have thought that such stiff riches would again have come so thoroughly into fashion.

But tucked behind Van Cleef & Arpels is the newest venture of a quite different star from the past — Sweet Baby Jane's. The Cream Parlour. Baby Jane Holzer, famous for her outrageous blonde mane, her thin and eager body, her penchant for just being there. "I was," she says blithely "famous for nothing."

There were a few such as she in the early sixties: rich, bored, the children of tough and striving businessmen, married to even richer sons of their parents' friends. Her brief moment of fame was over — she had been the perfect incarnation of Warhol's 15 minute star.

And the years have passed and here is 43-year-old Jane Holzer, looking exactly like every other tough businesswoman in Palm Beach, a little too blond, in pale pink and pearls. The look that Vreeland loved ("marvellous, glorious, a tiny face like a narcissus and lovely bones") has filled out. It is square, harder, everything is bigger.

The exercise coach who made house calls has been cancelled; the farm in Pennsylvania and ski home in Aspen are up for sale. Business comes first. Running the family real estate business is hard work. Sweet Baby Jane at first glance may look like an idle woman's toy — there are plans for a chain, besides it already makes a profit. The space happens to be empty.

Jane Holzer is the Worth Avenue landlady of Vuitton, Van Cleef & Arpels, Mayors' Jewellery, Hopkin, Amann and Gemma. There are rents to be raised, parties to be organised, deals to be negotiated.

"She's just a truly charming, lovely girl," says designer Halston who "dresses" her, as the saying goes. "I've seen her grow up from the girl of the 1960s. She's learned the womanly things of giving, of being nice." Nice, of course, as the eighties understands it. Anyone for sorbetto? Gelato? A rental property or two?

tied on a farm in the Amish countryside of Pennsylvania. She raised horses, brought up her son, talked of the joy of knowing only genuine folk who live on \$15,000 a year. Her brief moment of fame was over — she had been the perfect incarnation of Warhol's 15 minute star.

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MSC

If Clive Sinclair is right, it's goodbye to the microchip and hello to the wafer



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

FOR THOSE of us who have only just come to grips with the fact that the microchip may well be a useful contributor to late twentieth century quality of life — that, for example, it helps reduce

exhaust pollution as well as giving us computer-game arCADES — it is a little disturbing to hear that chips as we know them are on the way out.

But that is what the microchip business is trying to do. If the extraordinary Sir Clive Sinclair is right, he has already done it. If so, he will have achieved the great breakthrough which was so far eluded everyone else.

It's typical Sinclair and therefore untypical British. He has plunged bravely into a technology that has an obvious future but entails maximum risk. In this case the risk is for the big conservative British electronics groups is deeper than usual.

The Sinclair team has developed the ideas of a British inventor, Ivor Catt, who since the late 70s has been trying to get British firms to listen to him. On that point this newspaper must admit to the British disease — we didn't have the bottle to write

about Catt then, in part because the technological establishment dismissed his notions.

On the risk front, Sinclair has tackled, via Catt, the fundamental breakthrough of the microchip business. It has always been a glorious dilemma: that you build chips by the hundreds on wafers of silicon, then break those wafers apart to separate all those microscopic machines, then put them together again to power computer systems. Why not one jumbo chip instead of separate microchips?

The problems the Sinclair team have now apparently cracked are at least twofold. First, there is the cost of the silicon wafer. The difference in principle in coordinating the pulsing speed of electronic operation over a quarter of an inch and over four inches. Then there is the reliability problem. One dud component among many thousands will make nonsense within one microchip.

If your chip is the whole wafer, how do you ensure reliability levels in production that will permit it to work?

The answer Sinclair has chosen is "redundancy" — putting in plenty of spare parts that take over from the dud parts. That idea for microchips themselves is now the routine fashion. It wasn't until Ivor Catt was talking in those terms on a larger scale in the 70s.

Sinclair says he will this year be producing jumbo chips, four inches across, and storing around four million bits of basic information, before his new computer gets started. Those wafers will provide big computer storage for home computers.

That figure has to compare with 77 million bits held in the 300 separate memory chips produced on one wafer at the orthodox industry's "state of the art". Nevertheless, it is impressive. No one else has yet claimed to have done it. One

Silicon Valley company, Trilog Systems, has already failed to produce wafer-scale chips after \$300 million of venture capital funding.

Of course, to put the Sinclair achievement in further perspective, it is at best just one more step along the path to ever cheaper and simpler computer memories. The aim must be to get rid of all the mechanical bits — disc drives and the like — which at present have to be used to provide storage. When they can do this, and do it cheaply, a whole new range of opportunities for computer use come forward.

Burdened budget

THE MONEY supply figures brought sterling M3 to within the target range, but not by the margin that the markets had expected. There was therefore some disappointment, which spilled over to the gilt market.

ent reasons, were less bearish of the dollar than on Monday. But does this about the prospect of an interest rate cut next week?

Not necessarily. It puts rather more of a burden on the budget as a means of getting interest rates down. Had the money supply figures been better, we would in all probability have had a cut in base rates ahead of the budget. At one stage yesterday morning, money market rates would have pointed to a cut of 1 per cent, perhaps even 1½ per cent, in base rates. After the figures came back up, but would still support a 1 per cent cut.

A further fall in the dollar would have helped, but this was not to be. While the pre-dollar fever has abated, it is interesting that whenever it slips a little there is firm buying pressure again. It may be starting its downward slide, but the evidence is still thin. At any rate, given good but not brilliant money sup-

ply figures and a weaker sterling, the burden shifts to the budget. The sensible expectation still seems to be that the authorities would be nervous of giving any signal which the markets might interpret as a softening of their monetary stance. If anything, this last set of figures will stiffen resolve, and make them even less likely to take a risk.

But if that means continued high interest rates for the time being, the plain fact remains that base rates of, say, 13 per cent would be extraordinarily high — certainly high enough to be any reason of domestic monetary restraint. Some downward movement is still a strong possibility, though now we will have to wait for next week to get it.

EMS success

FINALLY, today is the sixth anniversary of the European Monetary System, and in the

frenetic world of the currency markets, it is an anniversary worth celebrating. After all, most people in this country at least gave it little chance in its early years, so survival itself is an achievement.

But the EMS has done more than survive. It has at least two achievements which deserve notice. One is that it has, at the margin, helped create a European pool of stable water in an increasingly stormy currency sea. The other is that the European Currency Unit, made up of a basket of all 10 ECU currencies, is now being used in contracts almost as a currency itself. It is the fifth most popular currency for interbank operations, according to a recent Bank for International Settlements study, ahead of sterling and the French franc.

In a way the commercial bankers have been more successful at promoting ECU unity than have the politicians.

£4m-a-week bill wrecked hopes of breaking even

Pit strike costs BSC £175m

By Michael Smith,
Industrial Editor

The year-long miners' strike cost the state-owned British Steel Corporation £175 million and wrecked plans for the combine to reach break-even before deducting interest and exceptional costs — for the first time in eight years.

BSC chairman's Sir Robert Tait, reported the annual cost of the dispute for the first time last night and commented: "unofficially" that the dispute was costing the group between £3.5 and £4 million a week.

"That has been the cost of saving our industry and its jobs from this external assault, and of keeping all our customers and markets supplied," Sir Robert said.

Confirmation of the heavy cost of maintaining production throughout the miners' strike comes as the Trade and Industry Secretary, Mr Norman Tebbit, considers a new business plan for British Steel's future.

Mr Tebbit shelved consideration of BSC's long-term plans while awaiting the outcome of the costly dispute and is now expected to give high priority to the subject.

It is widely assumed that British Steel would like to bring its production capacity more into line with demand by shutting down at least part of the Ravenscraig in Scotland, but a final decision rests with Mr Tebbit. Earlier plans by former BSC chief, Mr Ian MacGregor, to shut

Ravenscraig were rejected by the Cabinet. However, the Government is likely to have been impressed by BSC's ability to maintain production and keep customers supplied with steel throughout the miners' strike and by the corporation's enhanced ability to sell more steel abroad because of the collapse of sterling.

But government consideration of BSC's future is made more complex by EEC commitments to end all state aid for the Community's steel industry by the end of 1985. Closure of a major UK steel plant, combined with the effects of the past year's coal dispute, would make it difficult for BSC to operate without government assistance.

Sir Robert said last night

that after stripping away all the costs of the miners' dispute, BSC broke even for most of the year. "This achievement would have well exceeded the Government's target of breaking even before the miners' strike and by the end of the year," he added.

BSC, he explained, had to undertake "extraordinary measures" to maintain production during the dispute. These included the use of lorry convoys to carry up to 100,000 more tonnes of coal and iron ore and armadas of small ships to deliver imported coal to tiny ports on the Trent and Uss.

Sir Robert said it was a striking tribute to human ingenuity and determination that the industry had operated normal levels for the past months.

Kleinwort forks out for JMB

By Peter Rodgers,
City Editor

Merchant bank Kleinwort Benson has provided half of its share of guarantees against the losses of Johnson Matthey Bankers, which suggest that the losses could be as high as £245 million. At this level, the Bank of England would also have to fork out £27.5 million towards the cost of the losses.

Under a package of guarantees agreed last year following the JMB rescue, the Bank passed the hat round the City after it took over the failed Johnson Matthey subsidiary.

Kleinwort's decision to provide half of its share of the guarantees is the first public indication of the scale of the losses, although unofficial estimates have already put them at £250.

Kleinwort's share of the guarantees is £75 million, of which £37.5 million has been provided in its accounts. The bank is one of four gold bullion dealers which were each asked to contribute the same amount to the package, which was put to the City last year.

Kleinwort, however, made an advance payment of £175 million in December. The only bank to have done so. It was not asked for the money, which it handed over early for tax reasons.

JMB has resources to cover the first £150 million of losses, but above that level the Bank of England and a group of banks will share equally the additional cost up to a ceiling of £150 million.

Brokers censured

By Mary Brasier

A firm of Lloyd's brokers has been censured for colluding in passing the running costs of a luxury yacht off as insurance claims.

Dashwood, Brewer & Philips were found guilty by Lloyd's disciplinary committee on two charges of processing "fictitious claims". They were made by an underwriter, Mr Peter Coucher, who resigned from Lloyd's at the end of 1983.

According to Lloyd's report, Mr Coucher received a total of £12,000 as a result of making 28 claims between 1977 and 1983 on the insurance of his yacht, the Lady Cleopatra.

According to the disciplinary committee at least eight of the claims for "losses or expenses caused by insured perils" were not claims for insured perils.

Up to 12 more claims were very doubtful and many claims were falsely described to give them a spurious appearance of validity.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ship yard talks fail

HOPES of a Government rescue for the struggling North-east ship repair yard, Readhead, were dashed yesterday. Representatives of the unions at Readhead's Tyneside yard and South Shields Council met the Industry Minister, Mr Norman Lamont, in a bid to raise about £400,000, but were left with little prospect of help.

Dr David Clark, the South Shields labour MP who led the deputation, said afterwards that Mr Lamont had let them down. It was a bitter experience for the company representatives, who said they could see their dreams evaporating and it was very sad.

The deputation was seeking a Government cash guarantee of around £400,000 to save the yard, which broke even during its first year's trading but has since run up debts of about £250,000. Readhead was bought from British Shipbuilders by the yard's staff with redundancy money.

THE government should change its Insolvency Bill to strengthen the recovery chances of ailing companies and reduce the time taken to liquidate them, says the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants. In a letter to the Trade and Industry Minister, Mr Alex Fletcher, the association says the Bill "an important landmark in the development of insolvency law," but cautioned that several changes were necessary to make the bill fair and practicable.

DUNHILL Holdings, the luxury goods group, has counted a good thing in the French fashion house and fragrances group, Chloé. It is paying £6.4 million for the private group which made a profit of £1.6 million in 1983 on turnover of £8.2 million.

NUOVO Banco Ambrosiano, the private Italian bank established after the 1982 collapse of Banco Ambrosiano, reported a net profit of £1,094 million for the six-month period ended December 31, 1984. — AP-DJ.

PHILIPS, the giant Dutch electronics concern, has confirmed that it has disposed of its interest in a medium-sized West German optics company, Loewe Opta AG.

The sale of Philips' 24.3 per cent share in Loewe could close a three-month controversy over the extent of the company's varying degrees of secret ownership of part or all of the West German concern over the past 30 years.

The deal, in which Philips' 24.3 per cent share in Loewe was sold to a consortium of Philips, Grundig, the West German electronics company, and Loewe in certain product areas. — AP-DJ.

Disappointing money supply hits markets

By Christopher Huhne

The 1 per cent growth in the main money supply measure, sterling M3 (which includes notes, coin and bank accounts) announced yesterday, disappointed the markets which had been expecting stability or even a fall.

The annualised growth rate of sterling M3 is nevertheless provisionally estimated to have fallen 1 per cent point within the ceiling of the Government's 6 to 10 per cent target range, in contrast with last month's figures which put the money measure at the edge of its range.

Similarly, the more narrow measure M0 which includes only notes, coin and banks' deposits with the Bank of England showed a small rise of 1 per cent to give an annualised growth rate of 5½ per cent.

City analysts, however, expressed some concern about the continuing growth of bank lending, up £1.6 billion in the month, and the relative lack of offsetting sales of government bonds.

Officials said yesterday that the market appeared to have misinterpreted recent bond issues as a sign of a tightening of the money supply. They pointed out that the full effects of the monetary aggregates of the sharp rises in interest rates at the end of January had still to be seen, since they occurred only half way through the banking month.

They also said that bank lending at least appeared to be back on its previous trend after a £2 billion increase in banking in January.

Leeds home loan merger delayed by three months

By Margaret Dibben,
Money Editor

The merger between the Leeds Permanent and Leeds and Holbeck building societies has been delayed by three months because 4.5 per cent of members did not receive ballot forms. The application was already before the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies but has now been withdrawn.

The Leeds' failure to notify all members could invalidate the vote taken at the annual meeting on January 27 which approved the merger. So the society is starting from scratch and sending new voting forms to all 225 million members.

The Leeds & Holbeck has also admitted that not all its members were contacted about the merger and is taking the same action.

The Leeds societies have not yet fixed a firm date for merging but are planning to complete by the end of June or early July.

There appears to be three main reasons why so many

Glaxo sells Vestric

By Mary Brasier

GLAXO is pulling out of drug distribution with the sale of its loss-making Vestric offshoot to AAR Holdings for £15 million.

Vestric is one of the top two pharmaceutical wholesalers in the UK and problems in the industry had fuelled speculation that it might be sold off. Glaxo said yesterday that it felt Vestric would have a better future as part of a group whose main business is distribution.

AAR's core interests are fuel and building supplies, distribution and road haulage. It moved into pharmaceuticals in 1976 when it bought Chemists Holdings and its wholesale outlets also include Hill's pharmaceuticals.

Last month, announcing its AAR's figures, chairman Mr William Pybus said: "We intend to pursue our policy of increasing both market share and geographical coverage."

He added yesterday that he thought there was a secure future in wholesaling for distributors who were able to "combine customer service with high efficiency."

The Vestric acquisition puts AAR into the top rank of wholesaling alongside the independently owned Unicorn. It is paying for the deal by way of a share placing of 13.5 million shares at 113p a share, which will also be open to ordinary shareholders.

Vestric brings £23 million of sales mainly to chemists shops and losses of £900,000 to AAR. The business has been cutting back through its network of 22 depots and is expected to be back in the black this year.

Vestric, like other wholesalers, has suffered from stiff competition, a squeeze on margins and now faces the prospect of the introduction of the Government's limited list of prescribed drugs for the National Health Service.

Renault aid

THE French Government plans to boost its annual capital infusion to the state-owned Renault car group to 3 billion francs this year from 1.9 billion francs in 1984, an Economics Ministry official said yesterday. — AP-DJ.

'Banzai' for Japan's Chunnel

From Robert Whyman,
in Tokyo

THE Japanese have just completed the excavation of a 32.2 mile long tunnel between two islands, demonstrating that a long undersea route such as the Channel tunnel is technically feasible even though the economic viability of the project is far from certain.

Amid roars of "Banzai" from dignitaries and engineers, the Transport Minister Mr Tokuro Yamashita pushed a button and dynamited the wall to open the way between Japan's northern island of Hokkaido and the main island of Honshu. At 32.2 miles, the Seikan tunnel becomes the world's longest, 1.8 miles longer than the Anglo-French tunnel whose 31.1 mile length remains firmly on the drawing board.

Japan already boasts the longest land tunnel, a fraction

less than 13 miles, on the new bullet train service between Tokyo and Niigata, outstretching the 12 miles of the Italian-Swiss Simplon tunnel.

Construction workers, who began boring on opposite sides of the stormy Tsugaru Strait nearly 21 years ago, boasted their achievement with saki.

The Seikan Tunnel, one of the world's most ambitious construction projects, tested engineering skills to the limit. Soft grounds, minor geological faults and highly fissured rocks delayed the boring. Four serious inundations occurred and over 30 workers died in accidents.

But the justified sense of triumph was overshadowed by doubts about the usefulness of the tunnel, which will be opened to traffic in 1987 at a final cost of some \$2 billion dollars. Carrying a double rail track under the sea, it is destined to prove an additional

burden on the Japan national Railways, which is plagued by huge deficits. The constructors will lease the tunnel to the state railway for \$266 million a year, but say the Yomiuri newspaper in an editorial, "It is useless to criticise the erroneous judgments of the past."

Meanwhile, a potential customer has expressed interest. The Seikan Tunnel would be ideal for supplying the four army divisions on Hokkaido, close to the Soviet Union, say Defence Agency officials. Munitions and other supplies that have to go by sea across the international waters of the Tsugaru Strait are vulnerable to attack from Soviet warplanes, they say.

If the loudest bannals at the completion of the strategic tunnel on Sunday came from the nation's fast expanding military establishment, that would be not at all surprising.

Whizz kid will join Sinclair in chip venture

By Maggie Brown

Sir Clive Sinclair plans to start making jumbo silicon chips — the next advance on microchips — at a new factory in England by late in 1985, and recruited Dr Robb Wilmut, the whizz kid chairman of ICL, to lead the £50 million initial venture.

Dr Wilmut is joining the Sinclair Research board as a director, and his first key task, says Sir Clive, is to raise the £50 million of start-up venture capital needed for this high-risk venture — probably from investors in the United States.

The news comes as Sinclair Research faces a 43 per cent drop in prices, from £28 million in the current financial year which ends on March 31, after severe Christmas sales problems for home computers, bad debts and stock written down largely on the original ZX81 computer, totalling £7.5 million.

Production is designed to rise to one million jumbo chips a year by 1987, after 300,000 at the start up.

They will also form the key to a new Sinclair range of briefcase computer code-named Proteus with graphic screen, which will carry data bases with them and use very little power. Sir Clive believes the wafers will eventually put the use of tapes to record information.

Dr Wilmut's appointment is regarded within the industry as a coup. He is taking a personal share stake in the water company and is currently putting the final stamp on a plan for ICL and its new owner, STC, the "convergence" of computing and telecommunications products, which was the rationale behind the merger. He is apparently remaining at ICL.

Sir Clive yesterday met 30 of his 45 institutional investors for two hours to explain the company's trading problems, including nine-month figures to December 31 showing sales

of £89 million and trading profits of £7.5 million. By comparison, last year's sales were of about £14 million for the preceding two years of 1983-4 and 1982-3.

Shareholders afterwards appeared relieved that the company seemed to be withstanding the crisis in reasonably good shape, and with lowish borrowings of £5 million. But it has been forced to abandon its spring plans for a stock market flotation because of Acorn's near failure and its poor figures.

It now has no firm plan for another attempt, though Sir Clive did not rule out a move later this year.

The new company, Sir Clive's first move into high-tech manufacturing, will be 51 per cent controlled by Sinclair.

Sinclair Research is also undergoing a series of major internal changes. Managing director Mr Nigel Seale is stepping down, but remaining as a director to spearhead a sales push of the Sinclair QL and pocket television in the United States.

This follows a withdrawal last year from that difficult market. Mr David Chaffin is becoming managing director of the computer division, Mr Bill Jeffrey, a newcomer from Mars Electronics of the television side. The company is also introducing tough new crack-downs on customers returning faulty Spectrum computers: previously they were replaced up to a year after sale, now it is cut to 30 days.

Putting the company's stocks, at £24 a share, to £20, Sir Clive believes the high but Sir Clive believes the two-month drying up of sales is ending. Other newish product attacks include watch-radios for sale in the US, and a major push on high resolution television sets.

The company's brokers, Hoare Govett, were not aware yesterday of any major selling of Sinclair Research shares after the meeting.

Goldsmith takes \$76 m stake in Crown group

By Margaret Pagano,
City Correspondent

Sir James Goldsmith's General Oriental Investments group has just spent \$76.7 million buying a chunk of shares in the US paper packaging and timber group, Crown Zellerbach.

General Oriental bought 2.3 million shares in Crown, and an associate company purchased another 42,100 shares taking its stake to 8.6 per cent. The group is now Sir James's strategy of buying into US companies which he believes are undervalued by the stock market.

A couple of months ago the Goldsmith group, which includes the GO Investments Group and a General Occidental, applied to the US Justice Department for permission to buy up to 25 per cent of Crown and shares in Colgate-Palmolive, the giant US consumer products group valued at over \$2 billion. Sir James has spent some \$70 million buying a 3.5 per cent

stake in Colgate and is believed to be planning a full bid — or using this as a smoke-screen for other ambitions.

Sir James was unavailable for comment last night.

So far his forays into the US takeover field have brought successful results. He bought the Diamond International group for \$685 million three years ago only to sell off most of the group to make a net return of 200 per cent on his original investment. Last year had made \$54 million profit on a stake in the St Regis paper group and the Continental Group, both paper-based groups which were subject to takeovers.

Last year he set up a new Cayman Islands investment group, Oriental and American Investment, with the purpose of buying into undervalued companies. His friend and business partner, zoo-keeper Mr John Aspinall, who co-owns the Aspinall Holdings casino group, has joined the venture.

Lonrho urges monopoly inquiry

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Lonrho directors had an hour-long meeting at the Department of Trade and Industry yesterday to press their case for a Monopolies Commission investigation into the £615 million takeover bid for the House of Fraser by the Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers.

The Lonrho team led by chairman Sir Edward du Cann and chief executive Mr Tiny Rowland put their argument to a group of top level officials headed by Trade and Industry Secretary, Mr Norman Tebbit and his deputy Mr Alex Fletcher.

The Director General of Fair Trading, Sir Gordon Borrie, is also understood to have been present.

Yesterday's meeting came less than 24 hours after the Al-Fayed's privately-owned company, Alfayed Investment and Trust, had clinched control of the Harrods stores group with a £180 million share buying spree that lifted the brothers' shareholding from 29.9 per cent to 51 per cent of Fraser's issued share capital.

At a meeting with the Office of Fair Trading on Monday the Al-Fayed's — whose takeover bid has the backing of the Fraser board — argued that there was no reason for referring the bid on competition grounds because they did not have any retailing interests in the UK. Neither did they believe there were public interest grounds for a referral.

Mr Tebbit is expected to rule on the question of a Monopolies Commission reference sometime this week — possibly today — and is thought already to have received the OFT's recommendations on whether the bid should be allowed to go ahead.

Neither Lonrho nor the DTI was prepared to comment on the atmosphere of yesterday's 65 minute meeting or to say what arguments Lonrho put forward to support its call for a referral.

SE's new rules ready

THE Stock Exchange Council yesterday gave the green light to the package of proposals, including new membership rules, which will govern the market after "big bang" day. The proposals should be sent out to members in a draft White Paper for general discussion on March 18.

The new membership rules will require that newcomers to the exchange own 100 shares as a prerequisite to entry and existing firms control 50 shares. The number of shares to be held by smaller firms will be decided on a sliding scale yet to be agreed. This scheme means that all the exchange's 4,200 members will have their existing one share divided into five.

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Crop of ailments could be the price of farm spraying

Britain's first pesticide legislation reaches committee stage in the Commons next week. James Erlichman explains why the Bill was never designed to deal with the growing problem of pesticide use and abuse in the United Kingdom

TO PROTECT and reassure its inhabitants Britain should have the strictest pesticide legislation on earth.

The island is small, its population is great, and the application of chemicals to its landscape is intense.

In the last ten years Britain's biggest, most subsidised and least controlled industry agriculture has been lured by Common Market subsidies to increase pesticide spraying on a vast scale. The amount of wheat grown in the UK has almost trebled since 1972 to nearly 15 million tonnes last year. Farmers have used continuous cropping methods and constant applications of new pesticides to send their yields and profits soaring.

If there is a price to pay in human health for this radical exposure of crops, countryside and inevitably, of rural communities, to these complex chemicals, the government is displaying a remarkable lack of concern.

The pesticides legislation now being pushed through Parliament fails to erect any of the obvious safeguards to guarantee that the crops we eat, and the air we breathe, are safe.

No systematic checks on pesticide levels near rural communities have been effected, to study the persistent build-up of pesti-

cides in human tissue have been promised. Restrictions on aerial spraying of crops remain arbitrary, inadequate and split between government agencies; and tests on pesticides residues on food, while required for EEC exports, will be ignored for most domestic consumption.

More than 30 years ago the government was told by the leading scientist, Lord Zuckerman, that tough new statutory powers were needed to control pesticide use. Public records recently uncovered under the 30-year rule show that the recommendations of Lord Zuckerman's working party were systematically altered or ignored by civil servants.

The pesticide legislation that Britain is about to receive in 1986 will require ministers to do absolutely nothing new. The Food and Environment Protection Bill will only "enable" the government to take whatever action, in its wisdom, it believes is necessary to protect the public from pesticide misuse.

In theory, this kind of enabling legislation is a hostage to fortune and could actually have draconian consequences. If Friends of the Earth were (improbably) and by way of example, to select an office the pressure group could use the



Crop spraying: some medical complaints could be well founded

abstract powers of the Bill to ban the use of all pesticides immediately on the vague grounds that its ecological-minded ministers deemed all such chemicals an unnecessary public health hazard.

Conservative ministers at the Ministry of Agriculture will no doubt clutch the statute less firmly to their hearts. They may even place it under a quite different part of their anatomy and sit on it.

This sort of complacency might have been tolerated in Lord Zuckerman's post-war era. But since EEC entry in 1972 the value of pesticides sprayed in Britain has leapt from £40 million a year to £320 million a year. Even allowing for inflation, this represents at least a four-fold increase in the effective cloud of chemicals sprayed per square inch on British soil.

"Pesticide prices have not risen as fast as inflation and

the toxic potency they pack per pound sterling has risen sharply," said Mr Chris Ross, the countryside campaigner for Friends of the Earth.

Evidence is now growing that hundreds of people in Britain each year suffer "sub-acute" pesticide poisoning after exposure to farm chemicals. Aerial spraying is not even specifically covered in the legislation. Although only 2 per cent of Britain's field area is covered from the air, aerial spraying is the most public alarm. According to FOE, up to 60 per cent of the pesticide sprayed from aircraft (in a US Government study) drifted more than 1,000 feet from its field target.

Until last summer planes in Britain could fly within 50 feet of houses and the Civil Aviation Authority, after mounting public pressure, has only increased the distance to 200 feet.

Privately, respected members of the UK pesticide industry believe some of the medical complaints may be well founded. Typical symptoms include flu-like ailments such as aching limbs, eye irritation and various chest complaints. They also include dizziness, disorientation and depression which may stem from exposure to the newer class of organophosphorous pesticides. These work by destroying the nervous systems of insects.

A lawyer, a policeman, an engineer and a retired chemist are among those who have recently complained of pesticide poisoning to Friends of the Earth.

The Health and Safety Executive angrily denies allegations that its agricultural inspectorate is disdainful of complaints and fails systematically to monitor incidents. But the number of agricultural inspectors has

fallen under government cuts from 176 to 158 in the last three years when the number of complaints has been rising.

The Environment Minister, Mr William Waldegrave, recently told Parliament: "Routine general monitoring of ambient levels of pesticides in the atmosphere is not thought to be necessary or justified." But an environmental health officer covering a rural part of Kent said: "I am not the sort of person who normally supports Friends of the Earth. But from my own experience I can tell you we face a growing problem and my department is powerless and will apparently remain powerless under the new law, to take any action."

No one really knows what long-term effects sub-acute doses of pesticides have on humans. Typical laboratory studies only induce pesticide doses on rats for short peri-

ods and the rest is left to extrapolation.

Pressure in the House of Lords has at least wrung some apparent concessions from the Government on the safety testing of new pesticides. Previously this data was classified as secret for the eyes only of the Government's scientific panel, ministers and the pesticide manufacturers. This cover was blown by the US Freedom of Information Act since most UK pesticides are also sold in America where public disclosure of the data can be made mandatory.

The British Government has since reluctantly indicated that it plans to make some safety data public, but the enabling legislation will allow it to choose selectively what it wants to release and when.

The prospects for tougher pesticide enforcement are bleak because the job has been left by design, in the

hands of the Ministry of Agriculture which has traditionally seen its role as the sponsor and defender of Britain's farmers. Few farmers least of all those who get rich growing cereals, will want to be told how and when to spray their crops.

The pesticide manufacturers in the UK certainly wish to avoid a serious poisoning incident in Britain which could also provoke sanctions against their products in the international market for pesticides, worth \$18 billion a year. But the manufacturers are unlikely to become outspoken about the growing dangers lest they tacitly give weight to the claim that their products are inherently dangerous.

Sadly, it looks as if a succession of tragic ailments and incidents will have to occur before the Government enables itself to take any serious action to control pesticide misuse in Britain.

Microchips squeezed in Town vs Gown battle

Peter Large sees what the public is buying in the Alvey project

BRITAIN'S attempt to keep pace with world research in the computers of the 1990s has now reached cruising altitude.

But it has taken two years of the Government's five-year Alvey programme to climb to that stage through the contractual clouds. The money actually spent so far is only about 12 per cent of the projected £350 million.

The programme's director, Mr Brian Oakley, former head of the Government's Science and Engineering Research Council, agrees that there have been "real problems" in settling contractual details in research consortia between firms big and small and university teams.

One example is a project in image processing involving both the world's biggest computer company IBM, and Britain's biggest electronics group, GEC. That was formulated more than a year ago, and the contract has still not been signed.

But Mr Oakley says that the bulk of such problems have now been solved and today "at least 60 to 60 per cent" of the £350 million is committed and work is under way on 40 to 55 per cent of the projects. That has been achieved by getting work started, both in firms and universities, before all the details have been settled.

The Alvey programme (named after John Alvey, British Telecom's chief engineer, who headed the Government inquiry that devised it) is funded on the basis of the taxpayer paying for all the university work and then matching the investments of the firms involved. Thereby around two thirds of the programme is public money.

Even if the programme fails to keep Britain apace with Japanese and Americans in the race to produce the co-called "fifth generation" of computers for the

1990s, it already looks like giving us a lead in Europe. And it is certainly way ahead of the European Commission's parallel Esprit programme.

Perhaps nearly as important is the fact that it has achieved a rarity in British cooperation — the forming of partnerships between the few big electronics companies, the new small innovative firms and university research teams across the land.

It's that very success that some of the staff in the Alvey directorate blame for the contractual delays. They point out that new problems have emerged in these consortia very different from the usual sub-contracting relationships between big firms and small.

The holdups have not been just about money and intellectual property rights but about who manages what and the protection of confidentiality within universities and in foreign-owned multinationals. Foreign firms are allowed in, but only with guarantees that the research does not leave Britain. In fact, only two major foreign groups are so far involved, IBM and Schlumberger, and there is so far no agreement on whether foreign firms should be let into the Alvey information-swapping network of "clubs".

But even in strictly UK terms the legal wrangles have been drawn out. For instance, the final contracts for two of the "demonstrator" projects have only just been signed. More than eight months after they were officially farmed by the Government and the firms involved.



Brian Oakley, the Alvey supremo

projects are intended to produce practical applications of the leading edge of current technology, and have therefore been criticised for putting the Alvey cart before the Alvey horse. The first concentration, the critics argue, should be on fundamental research.

Mr Oakley replies that beginning with the demonstrators was not just taking the line of least resistance; they also served to "pull the technology through". The emphasis has shifted since. The selection of Alvey

projects has been rigorous: 27.5 per cent of the 457 proposals put forward since September 1983 have been rejected so far. By the end of 1984, 133 projects had been given the go-ahead. These involve 53 firms (20 of them small), 40 universities, six polytechnics, and five research establishments.

GEC heads the list, being involved in 28 projects. (That at least provides a smidgeon of a reply to the attack on GEC last week by the Welsh Secretary, Mr Nicholas Edwards, who accused it of being one of those UK companies lacking entrepreneurship, serving to believe that it should prove itself a successful financial institution rather than risk its resources in development.)

British Telecom and Plessey share second place in the list, with 22 projects each, though STC and ICL together account for 27 projects. Among the universities, Cambridge leads (16 projects) followed by Edinburgh and Imperial College, London (14 each). Oxford is down at No 6.

While organising all that, the Alvey directorate has also had to keep tabs on Britain's involvement in the European Community's very similar Esprit programme of pre-competitive computer research, now getting underway in several areas.

Esprit's initial funding, on the basis of matching firms' investment, is nearly £1 billion over five years. It is difficult to calculate national comparisons, because of the

different bases of schemes, but the British, French, and German schemes alone must account for some £1 billion.

Esprit, of course, faces deeper problems, both political and bureaucratic, than the national programmes do. Alvey, for example, takes its decisions month by month at board meetings. The Esprit procedure involves gathering proposals once a year, putting them (unidentified) before a technical jury, sending the resultant short list to two management committees (one political, one technical), and then putting the results before the Council of Ministers.

With the first batch last year, that procedure took from May to December, merely to commit about £120 million on 106 projects. UK firms involved in 87 of those projects, the same total as Germany; France is third with 64.

Viscount Davignon, in his days as the EC Industrial Commissioner, made desperate attempts to get things moving on a European scale. At the start of the 80s he estimated that if the Community had not reached agreement on common standards for telecommunications and computers by this year, then Europe would be left behind in the information technology with Japan and the US.

In fact, attempts to achieve that are only now gathering pace — and those attempts are not by political initiative but by Europe's big information technology firms. The initial driving force behind Esprit itself also came from the

firms; they realised that the research task was too big for any one company alone.

Community officials in Brussels blame the "quasi-theological feuds" of European politics for the fact that they have no industrial policy to work on, and they produce devastating statistics about the effects of European nationalism.

In the five years spanning the dawn of the 80s, Japan spent \$240 million on microchip research. Separately, EC nations spent a total of \$470 million. Japan has as a result seized 40 per cent of the world chip market from the US. Europe failed to retain a 10 per cent share.

On the development of computerised telecommunications, 10 European firms have spent about \$10 billion and tied up about 10 per cent of all Europe's software people in the process. The US spent \$3 billion and Japan only \$2 billion to make Europe.

On that scale of disaster, the problems of achieving at least national cooperation in Alvey to insignificance. When asked to assess progress so far in comparison with Japan and the US (whose joint computer research projects got going earlier) and the rest of Europe, Mr Oakley says it's rather like the curate's egg.

He is very pleased with the progress in the core areas of software and microchips of the 1990s. But in developing the techniques of artificial intelligence (a loose bit of jargon which Mr Oakley himself rightly scorns) the partnerships cre-

ated so far are not as strong as he would like, because British specialists are still not there in sufficient numbers.

Much of that expertise is in small newish firms and Mr Oakley wonders whether they will be able to grow fast enough and draw together enough good people.

On the development of totally new computer architectures — breaking away from the principles that have been the heart of computers since Von Neumann devised them in the 1940s — Mr Oakley is "very encouraged", particularly by the way in which industry is getting involved with a fundamental work by the academics.

One ingenious development here is a new computer language which — ideally — should only be needed for a few years. This forms a link between the software and hardware researchers so that they can still relate to each other's work without being stumped by changes in the possibilities as research progresses.

Mr Oakley is pessimistic in only one of the interlocking areas of research. This is the development of easy and sure natural language communication between people and computers. The UK scene here is quite depressing, with very little work going on in industry to match that in the universities.

In all areas bar that one, Mr Oakley sees the British research at least apace of the world. Even in microchips itself we are not out of touch. What worries him is still the old British problem — transferring that invention to firms at a pace that matches the

thrust of Japan and the US. In that he fears we may be falling ever further behind.

The Alvey programme has itself brought out one example of that UK problem of converting small into big. It's a cottage industry, begun at Oxford a year ago, which produces hand-made computers, selling at £15,000 each.

That firm, High Level Hardware, makes top-power "work stations" of such quality that the buffs rave about them for university research. HLLH can only make about one computer a week so far, but the swift academic grapevine has meant that exports have begun without any sales effort. Two Swedish universities have placed orders, bringing the order total to nearly 50.

The Alvey directorate was so impressed that it considered establishing HLLH computers as the standard work station for all the communication Alvey work. But then the Oxford team got cold feet when they assessed the scale of HLLH's operations. The answer now may be American.

Yesterday I asked David Small, managing director of HLLH, whether he would like to see it as a venture capital people or a big British group, offering millions for helicopter expansion into world markets. "No, not really," he said.

HLLH support its own expansion. It just needs to crack the chicken and egg problem of big orders. It was a c and e problem, he argued, because people like the Alvey directorate did not have the faith to place big orders in a small firm and venture capital outfits did not have the faith to put up money till they saw these orders. Alvey's £350 million can't crack the fundamentals.

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Profit sharing—placebo or cure for the jobless

Guy Standing on an alternative to the conventional money wage system

PROFESSOR Martin Weitzman in the Guardian of January 16 makes some strong claims for his profit-sharing proposals — which would replace the conventional money wage system with one that combines a base wage with a share in the profits of the company. This is presented as an almost costless cure for stagflation, invested with the marvellous macro-economic properties of promoting economic growth, full employment and price stability.

Indeed, Professor Weitzman claims that profit-sharing would enable output to be perpetually stabilised at the full-employment, full-capacity level. "Truly, in the share economy it would be a case of the best of all possible worlds."

There are however a number of difficulties with professor Weitzman's proposal. First, it is supposed to guarantee full employment. But why in that event would workers and their union representatives not wish to take advantage of their favourable bargaining position to press for higher base wages and larger shares of total revenue? And since steadily rising employment in a firm implies a steadily declining average remuneration level for the workforce, would workers wish to restrict hiring and reach tacit or explicit "compacts" with their employers?

In his book Professor Weitzman recognises these problems but does not satisfactorily answer them. He argues that all will be well if restrictions on hiring are forbidden — but in practice this could entail a raft of legislation and legal machinery to prevent workers co-alescing. Legislation of this kind, alien to most of the Western democracies, is a feature of those Far Eastern economies cited by professor Weitzman as "superior vari-

ants of capitalism." We will return to that point.

A second difficulty is the reliance on examples of large American manufacturing companies operating in which essentially "closed" economy, the US being the reference point. It may be feasible for General Motors to introduce revenue (profit) sharing, but employment in manufacturing accounts for a shrinking minority of jobs in all the western economies. Services — often in scattered, small-scale units with fluctuating revenues and workforces — provide the growing majority of jobs. Stimulating shares in their profits is likely to pose considerable practical problems, with ample scope for distrust, deception and dispute.

Moreover, many big manufacturers in Britain and elsewhere are vertically integrated multi-nationals where the assessment of locally generated profits for sharing out could prove extremely contentious. And given the ability of multi-nationals to shift jobs to lower-wage economies, a profit-sharing system could well accelerate the transfer of both manufacturing and service jobs away from Western Europe.

Then again, how would the public sector be incorporated into the scheme? Professor Weitzman's response to this question at a lecture in London recently was that the public sector should be reduced to a minimal, residual component of the profit-sharing economy.

Another obstacle to revenue sharing is that a growing proportion of total employment is indirect and casual, in effect, "Japanese" labour systems are spreading. Professor Weitzman cites with great enthusiasm the case of Japan — where workers are said to receive a quarter of their total pay in the form of revenue-sharing bonuses — which he claims combines employment stability with a high degree of worker satisfaction.

This profoundly misrepresents the Japanese labour system. A minority "core" of the workforce in large enterprises is on bonus schemes. But the vast majority is on fixed wages, and the system depends on highly paternalistic labour controls that ensure an acquiescent workforce.

It is noteworthy too that in his book Weitzman defends sharecropping on the grounds that it does not give rise to "involuntary unemployment". This is a remarkable way of looking at a system under which, in reality, landlords rely on the

existence of surplus labour to drive down the share ratio of people they recruit or provide with a plot of land. The result for the sharecroppers is misery and impoverishment.

This use of the sharecropping example implies a tacit recognition that a fairly high level of unemployment can be a useful ingredient of the profit-sharing system to keep wage shares down.

Professor Weitzman prefers to prohibit hiring restrictions, claiming that under his proposals workers' incomes would not be cut to any extent because if enough firms adopt revenue sharing the economy will move towards full employment and greater prosperity.

The great hopes attached to profit-sharing seem premature. If Professor Weitzman is the prophet he has been called then much work remains to be done by his apostles before a politician-saviour could realistically descend to take advantage of the scheme's apparent appeal. Profit-sharing may indeed be desirable on social and political grounds (what Professor Weitzman calls the "soft-boiled" arguments in favour) but as a solution to mass unemployment in a market economy socialism seems preferable to faith.

Guy Standing is an economist with the International Labour Organisation in Geneva. The views expressed here are personal and do not represent those of the ILO.

Gilts give up gains after M3 setback

broker, and in others it has been offloading its own Latin American loans, reducing its exposure to problem countries to under 2 per cent of its assets.

Some of the loans are sold to firms which are planning to invest in Latin America and which can sometimes as part of their dealings trade them in with the central banks of the countries concerned. A number of household business names in the UK are buying loans from banks with this in mind.

Says Kleinwort director Robin Rickwood:

"The market is raising its dividend of 4.7 per cent.

Chemical reaction for Yorks

IN SHORT...

ABDUL Shamhi's transformation of the Belgrave Holdings International hasing group has taken the company from \$54,000 to \$2.2 million in 1984. There is a dividend of 42p against nil. The group will get a boost this year from the inclusion of the new hotels and the Westbury International Hotel for the first time.

MEMBER DAY clothing group returned a loss of \$100,000 into a pre-tax profit of £230,000 in the half year to November but the subsequent spring sales have been below expectations. The retail sector is waiting for the end of the miners' strike which will enable the year's target to be achieved."

COMCAP raised its profits from \$1.5 million to \$2.8 million in 1984 and the dividend is 1p. The IBM lease will benefit from its increased financial strength this year and is

BOWATER Packaging has expanded its interests in the fast-growing exhibite intermediate bulk container market by the acquisition of Nattrass-Hickey & Sons of Wetherby. It will operate as part of Bowater Bulk Packaging. Both started operating about four years ago and together project a turnover of £2 million for 1985 as the market grows. The generation with this new distribution network in the agricultural, petrochemical, foods and seeds and seeds markets develops.

PETROLROL has entered into a traditional agreement to purchase certain reversionary interests in the Sweetwater Windham Prop in West Texas, or \$3 million in shares.

**Edited by
Tony May**

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COMMODITIES

Copper: Cash \$1,263 per tonne; three months \$1,279.50 per tonne.
 Nickel: Cash \$10,150 per tonne; three months \$10,100 per tonne.
 Lead: Cash \$319 per tonne; three months \$327 per tonne.
 Zinc: Cash \$319 per tonne; three months \$319.50 per tonne.
 Silver: Spot \$114 per troy oz; three months \$115.25.

Rubber: Spot 73¢ per kg; April 575¢ per kg; May 575¢; June 575¢; July 575¢; Aug 575¢; Sep 575¢; Oct 575¢; Nov 575¢; Dec 575¢.
 Tin: Spot \$2,380 per tonne; three months \$2,430; April \$2,468; May \$2,496; June \$2,495; July \$2,495; Aug \$2,495; Sep \$2,495; Oct \$2,495; Nov \$2,495; Dec \$2,495.
 Wheat: Spot \$2,120 per tonne; three months \$2,095; April \$2,068; May \$2,052; June \$2,052; July \$2,052; Aug \$2,052; Sep \$2,052; Oct \$2,052; Nov \$2,052; Dec \$2,052.

TOURIST RATES—BANK SELLS					
Austria	25.15	Greece	3.49.00	Portugal	191.00
Belgium	72.00	Germany	1.47.00	Spain	198.00
Canada	1.50	Italy	2.25.00	Sweden	10.25
Denmark	1.50	Japan	1.50.00	Switzerland	10.25
France	10.95	Netherlands	7.00	USA	1.00.75
Germany	3.57	Norway	1.00.00	Yemen/Yuz	2.00.75

STERLING RATES			
Closing	Market Rates	Premiums	FORWARD RATES (One Month)
Australia	1.5690-1.5720	1.5400-1.5430	
Austria	25.46-25.57	25.46-25.53	16.25 to 15 gvs prem
Belgium	73.08-73.26	72.92-73.17	23 to 18c prem
Canada	1.5046-1.5052	1.5001-1.5021	0.43 to 0.35c prem
Denmark	12.98-13.02	12.99-13.03	2.125 to 1.235 gvs prem
France	11.09-11.15	11.02-11.03	3.125 to 2.55c prem
Germany	3.63-3.64	3.62-3.63	2.5 to 2.25 pig prem
Italy	153.20-153.24	151.67-154.73	
Hong Kong	8.44-8.44		
Ireland	1.1685-1.1695	1.1655-1.1670	
Italy	227.21-228.73	225.25-2.268	par to 3 lire dis
Japan	284.12-282.95	281-282	
Netherlands	4.10-4.12	4.10-4.11	1.25 to 2.12c prem
Norway	10.41-10.46	10.43-10.47	1 to 0.25 vs prem
Portugal	199.64-202.18	200.41-202.67	130 to 470 cc dis
Spain	200.53-201.12	201.08-201.67	
Sweden	10.34-10.36	10.33-10.38	0.5 to 0.125 cc dis
Switzerland	3.08-3.09	3.09-3.10	2.375 to 2.125c prem
USA	1.0902-1.0922	1.0871-1.0890	0.51 to 0.48c prem

US HIGH STREET %				
Bank deposit: 8.5-9	Building society mortgages: 12.5-13			
Bank base rates: 18	Building society: 7.75			
Bank overdraft: 15-17	Finance house rate: 12.5			

UK MONEY MARKETS				
Treasury bill	7 day	1 month	3 months	6 months
Eligible bills	14	15 1/8	15 1/8	15 1/8
Interest rate	14 1/2	14 1/2	15 1/8	15 1/8
Discount market	14 1/2			

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS				
	1 month	3 months	6 months	
Swiss franc	8 1/2	9 1/8	9 1/8	
Euro DM	10 1/2	11 1/8	11 1/8	
Euro £	10 1/2	11 1/8	11 1/8	
Euro SW fr	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	

US ANTI-TRUST RATES: Federal funds: 8 1/2		US prime rates: 10 1/2	
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Radio 1

9	9	News: Midweek Libby Purdie
10	9	News: Gardeners: Question time
10	38	Morning Story: Death of an Inter- preter, by Helen Boyd
10	45	Daily Service: The Land of Counterpane
11	0	Stevenson's inspiration for 'A Child's Garden of Verses'
11	46	What's in a Name and Yours
12	0	News: The Gold of the Conqueror
12	27	The World at One: News
1	49	The Archers
2	0	News: Woman's Hour
3	0	News: Afternoon Play: Venus Smiles, by G. Ballard: Nons sense at the unveiling of a new sculpture.
3	47	Time for Verse

4 0 File on 4: Pre-Budget Examination
of the Government's economic
targets.
4 40 Story Time: Miss Mole, by E. H.
Young (8).
5 0 PM; News magazine.
6 0 The Six O'Clock News.
6 20 Just a Minute.

7 30 News: The Archers.
7 20 They'd None of 'em Be Missed
Mikado centenary celebration
7 45 Books of the Century: Play-
wright and critic John Spurling.

discusses Gabriel Garcia Marquez's One Hundred Years of Solitude.

8 15 Napoleon's Paris.

8 45 Analysis. Third World Take-off
Can Brazil beat its debts and

3 30 Diplomacy in a Pint Pot. How
should the FO deploy its
resources?

9 45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine
10 15 A Book at Bedtime: The Green
Man. by Kingsley Amis (8)
10 30 The World Tonight.
11 15 The Financial World Tonight.
12 20 Today in Parliament.

VHF: 11 0-12 0 Schools. 1 55 pm Lister
ing Corner. 2 5-3 0 Schools. 11 0 Stud
On 4. 11 30-12 10 am Open University
12 10-11 10 Schools Night-time Broadca

Wales (348m): 4 0 am As Radio 2. 6 4
Farming Today. 6 25 Natani Roberts
7 33 A.M. 10 5 Mike Flynn. 11 30 Thar
Now it's 10. 12 30 pm Meri for lunch
1 40 Catchphrase 1 45 The Russes
1 50 E. 3 30 Radio Brynlynyn. 4

Grant School. 5 00 Ar Radio 4. 7
 Four-Five-Six. 5 00 Ar Radio 4. 7
 Catchphrase 2. 7 5 Ar Radio 4. 8 45 M
 Voice Choir Competition. 9 30 Ar Rad
 4. 9 45 Interlude. 9 55-4 0 am
 Radio 2.
 Cymru (YNF). 5 55 am Weather. Gwel
 Radio 4. 6 25 Heli Bobol. 9 5 Ar Cuf

Chadwick, 11 10 20
Dyddol, 12 15 20
Ar Yr Awr, 12 15 20
O Glawr i Glawr, 12 15 20
Interlude, 12 15 20
Frynghawn, 12 15 20
Orand, 12 15 20

11 30-110 am Gwiler Radin 4 VHF.
Scotland (370m): 6 0 am A⁺ Radio 4 5 1
Farmina News 6 30 Good Morning
land. 6 45 Jimmy M⁺ 11 3 Make
Gathering. 12 0 News. Make
Music. 12 30 pm Lunch. Rep⁺
News. 1 0 A⁺ Radio 4. 1 45 Optima 2
1 50 Gwiler Bell 3

Scottish Quar-Mun Timr live from Wm
Minster. 3 30 Art Suffer. 5 0 Gus
Evening Scotland. 6 0 News. Pipina 6 3
Just for Fun. 7 2 Farming News. 7 20 T
Aberdeen Connection. 8 0 Wardell C
Wednesday. 9 30 Mostly Music. 10
News; Tom Ferrie. 12 0-Close As Radio

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BBC World Service can be received
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(465m) at the following times GMT:

6 am Newsday 7
Four Hours 7:30
7:45 That's Tru. 8
Reflections 8:15
Reviews 8:30
British Press Review 9:15
Today 9:30
Ahead 9:45

News: Time Remains: 10 30 A
Word: 11 0 News: 11 0 News: Ab
Britain: 11 15 Medicine: Disluc
12 0 News: Radio: 12 15 p
Nature: 12 30 The: 12 30
World: 12 35 Sports: 12 35
1 9 Twenty-Four: 1 30
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40 News. 4 45 The World Today. 5 0 News.
5 9 Monitor. 5 25 New Ideas. 5 3
Waveguide. 6 0 News. 9 15 Album Time.
9 45 Recording of the Week. 10 0 News.

Choice. 10 30 Financial News. 10 45
Reflections. 10 45 Sports Roundup. 11
News. 11 8 Commentary. 11 15
Mediterranean Dialogue. 11 30 To
Twenty. 12 midnight News. 12 9 am News.
About Britain. 12 15 Radio News. 12
22 30 Vex Minister. 1 8 News. Outlook.

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Review 2 15 Network UK 2 30 Assa
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3 15 The World Today 3 30 Ennet
Correspondents 4 0 Newdash 4 4
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